

VOTES FOR WOMEN

EDITED BY FREDERICK AND EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE

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ILLINOIS WOMEN AIM STRAIGHT



BRITISH ANTI-SUFFRAGIST: "Dear me! I had no idea they broke as easily as all that!"
SHOWMAN JONATHAN: "I guess any one can explode them—by aiming straight!"

(At the recent Illinois elections the newly enfranchised women exploded three cherished "Anti" theories by going to the polls at the rate of 80 per cent., by voting as human beings and not particularly as women, and by not plumping for the women candidates.)

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DEDICATION

To the brave women who to-day are fighting for freedom; to the noble women who all down the ages kept the flag flying and looked forward to this day without seeing it; to all women all over the world, of whatever race, or creed, or calling, whether they be with us or against us in this fight, we dedicate this paper.

THE OUTLOOK

Last Tuesday saw the publication of the Report of the Commission on the Civil Service, and we give elsewhere (page 438) the principal clauses relating to the employment of women.

Exclusion of Women from Class I.

The most important point is that the Commissioners, by 13 to 6, favour the continuance of the exclusion of women from the highest grades of the Service. By a reasoning that will not bear critical analysis, they defend this exclusion on the ground

that it is the interests of the community and not that of women applicants they have to consider. They fail to see that the exclusion of any individuals on grounds other than those of merit necessarily means that better persons are passed over in favour of worse. The artificial exclusion of women because they are women cannot therefore be in the interests of the community.

Equal Pay for Equal Work

All the members of the Commission agree in recommending that in special departments a larger number of women should be employed. Further, sixteen of the members recommend that an attempt be made to secure equal remuneration for equal work as between men and women.

Termination of Contract on Marriage

Eight out of the nineteen members of the Commission favour the abolition of the provision by which the employment of a woman civil servant is terminated on marriage. We deal with this question with special reference to a resolution on the same lines carried by the I.C.C., with regard to women doctors employed by the Council, in our leading article this week.

How Revolutionaries are Made

The refusal of the rights of political prisoners to the revolutionary suffragists belonging to the W.S.P.U. is often defended by the Government on the ground of the nature of the offences committed

by them. How little there is in this contention is shown by the fact that the members of the Women's Freedom League arrested for the technical offence of "obstruction" have recently been subjected to scandalous treatment in prison. A demand has been made to take their finger-prints; this demand they have very properly refused. Force has accordingly been used, and in consequence the members of the League have protested by adopting the hunger strike and by active mutiny in prison.

Items of Interest

At the Convention of Scottish Burghs, to which 200 Burghs sent 400 representatives, the principle of votes for women for a Scottish Home Rule Parliament under a federal system was carried after considerable discussion.

The Federal Amendment providing for equal suffrage simultaneously throughout the whole of the United States has been reintroduced into the Senate. It will be remembered that on March 19 it secured 35 votes in its favour to 34 against, thereby failing to secure the necessary two-thirds majority.

A Franchise Bill including equal voting rights for women has passed the Danish Lower House, and was being discussed in the Upper House as we went to press. If carried, it will have to be submitted again after the elections; but it is understood that this stage will be merely formal.

Lethbridge, a town in Alberta, one of the provinces of Canada, has given women the vote on equal terms.

THE FIRST MEETING OF THE WOMEN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL

A Forecast

By JOHN SCURR

We have been privileged to be present (in spirit, of course) at the first meeting of the Women's Advisory Council on Legislation.

A good attendance marked the opening of the proceedings, but as time went on the Members of Parliament present gradually melted away, having to receive deputations of their constituents and to take part in divisions.

In her inaugural address, the worthy President said that a few foolish women were asking for votes, wanting to degrade women to the level of mere men making crosses on pieces of paper. She felt sure that those present had too high an ideal of the importance of women to the community to wish to assist such an unwomanly campaign. (Loud cheers.) Women knew how to exercise their influence through the medium of the charms of their sex. (Enthusiastic applause.) Chivalry was man's great contribution to the progress of the world, and by it women would influence legislation for the benefit of mankind. (Hear, hear!)

The First Business Dismissed!

The first business was the consideration of The Pensions for Necessitous Widows Bill. Mr. Gordon O'Leary McTavish, the well-known Liberal M.P., said that if this measure were even discussed in the House of Commons the Prime Minister would resign. This would be a calamity to the nation. (Dissent from Tory M.P.'s present.) It was agreed that in view of the Hon. Member's statement it was useless to consider the measure.

Item two was the Bill proposing to establish a minimum wage for women employed in sack making. Sir Evacutes Noblonk, M.P., said the Tory Party felt every sympathy for the sack makers, but our Free Import system was strangling the trade. Tariff Reform was the only remedy.

In view of the statement of the Rt. Hon. Gentleman, it was agreed not to consider the measure, the Council being non-party.

On the Bill for compelling Municipal authorities to pay the same salaries to male and female employees doing the same work, Mr. Will Tylore, the well-known Labour M.P., stated that the members of his Union objected to women being employed at all. The Council decided that in view of this opposition the Bill could not be considered.

The next measure was the famous Bill authorising the admission of women to practise as solicitors. An animated discussion took place, during which it was generally agreed that women did not have the precise outlook so essential to men of the law. In view of the overcrowded state of the profession and the hard struggle of many solicitors to make both ends meet, it was unanimously agreed to recommend that women be allowed to act as solicitors' clerks. As they usually only desired pocket money for salary, it was felt that this important step would help a deserving profession. Thus the Council, in the words of the President, proved how the kindly hand of women helped us onward.

Too Delicate to be Discussed

No discussion took place on the White Slave Traffic Act, consideration of the measure being referred to a Committee of male members of the Council—the question being too delicate to be discussed by a mixed assembly. It was agreed that the women members assented to any recommendation the Sub-Committee might make.

On the Bill for compelling editors of newspapers to refer always to married women as "Missus," instead of by the present abbreviation of "Mrs.," the President waxed eloquent. She knew of no measure promoted in recent years which was so dear to the heart of women as this. Marriage was the objective of all good women, for until women came under the influence of good men, they were of no service to the world. Women who had accepted this crown of honour should have the public recognition which this Bill enacted.

It was unanimously agreed that the Bill be pressed forward and supported as soon as Home Rule, Welsh Disestablishment, Tariff Reform, and one or two other measures had been dealt with by the House of Commons.

It was announced that the Prime Minister had consented to a deputation from the Council waiting upon his twenty-fifth private secretary's secretary to place their recommendations before him. Great enthusiasm prevailed on this announcement being made, the President pointing out the difference of

the success of their methods compared with the well-known failure of the militant Suffragettes.

The Council adjourned to tea at Rumpelmayer's, the next meeting being fixed for the Greek Kalends.

It was agreed on all sides that the Council will be of enormous benefit to women; and, as its first meeting had proved, it would be of incalculable service to them.

WAR AGAINST WOMEN IN INDUSTRY

A Working Woman's Opinion

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Dear Editors.—The war against women in industry is not confined to clerks; it is universal. Women are unconsciously looking further afield than domestic work; men are conscious of the fact that they will soon stand a second chance and may take a second place.

There is not one man out of fifty who will acknowledge that a woman has a right to use her brains and hands to the best of her ability. They say that a woman does not need as much money as a man, so she must not earn as much, whether she is capable of the work or not. There are certain trades which men and women are equally capable of. In these trades the Trade Union forbids women to do the work, as men refuse to work with women; the women go to work at a non-union place and become blacklegs, and who is to be blamed for it?

There are many women yet who are not awake to their capability and value. Girls have argued that men have need of more money than girls. They cannot realise that they have to be much more economical, to have less amusement (unless the men pay for them), and not to be able to rise to an independent living. These girls and women are a great hindrance to the individuality of women. They are pleased to be the toys of men, and are grateful when one will marry them.

The chief reason for the exclusion of women is that men can rule. The secretaries and committees of the Trade Union consist of men, in the same manner as the Government consists of men. While women have to appeal to men they will not be treated with fairness. It is not in the interest of men that women shall be independent. If the women lawyers had appealed to a woman magistrate, or a jury of men and women who could reason the matter out fairly, they might have had a different verdict. That "women never have been and never shall be" is very reasonable for the men; that is the reason why women must fight the battle themselves.

When women have won the Parliamentary vote the door will be opened; we shall no longer have to ask the men what we may do, but will make our way. Then it will not be men preferred, but the best worker, and we shall have a chance to use our talents. But the women need awakening first.—Yours, &c.,

M. WESSON

(A Woman Worker).

5, Carnarvon Grove, Huthwaite, Notts.

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THE DREAM OF ANANIAS McGLADKIRK

By Hilda C. Adshead

"Anything more, sir?"

"No, nothing to-night, thank you, Waler. I'm tired, and I'll get to bed early."

"Shall I let all the detectives go, sir?"

"All? Certainly not!" snapped out Mr. McGladkirk. "How do you expect me to sleep in peace if all the detectives go home? A suffragette might come and bawl through the keyhole. I'm surprised at you, Waler."

"Well, sir, since the new load of coals came, the man who has to be down in the coal-cellar grumbles very much," said his secretary deprecatingly; "and the man in the dog-kennel is getting restive—"

"They can change, can't they?" said the Home Secretary. "Surely, with a staff of seventy detectives I can be looked after without being worried like this? Do have a little initiative, Waler!"

Waler gave it up and retired respectfully. Outside the door, a man, stationed as a rule in the boot-cupboard but now peering out anxiously, saw the secretary's face, and his own dropped.

"Won't let me off?" he grumbled. "Wish to goodness he'd have a bit of spirit. If he'd got half what these 'ere women have, he'd be ashamed—"

"Hush!" said Waler, sternly. "It's the country's duty to guard him when he's placing himself in danger for the country's good."

"Danger?" snarled the man, retiring among the boots. "A lot of blooming danger he's in! What's he frightened of, I'd like to know? Never was on such a beastly job in my life! It's enough to make a man chuck the force, it is!"

Waler turned away, and, lighting a cigarette, went off for a walk, glad to get his timorous chief off his mind for a few moments. But outside he was waylaid again, this time by a police officer.

"There's a lot of grumbling among the men, Mr. Waler," said the officer, gravely. "If we could possibly persuade Mr. McGladkirk to show a little courage—"

"Impossible," said Waler, hastily. "He's got it on his nerves, you know—thoroughly shaken. The men must look after him for a bit."

"They wouldn't mind ordinary looking after," grumbled the other; "but this dog-kennel business, and all the cupboards, and one of them as a servant to answer the bell—well, the men don't like it! Makes one almost wish," sighed the officer, taking off his hat to cool his head, "makes one almost wish they'd give 'em the vote and chance it!"

Meanwhile Mr. McGladkirk, left alone, looked nervously round his room. He opened the cupboards it contained and looked under the table; he even opened a large desk in case it contained a woman. And then he sat down in his chair, and for the first time he saw an unopened letter propped upon the mantelshelf. He opened it with considerable pleasure, for he saw from the handwriting that it was from an old friend long since lost sight of in the stress of work.

He had become a great man since Jack Forest and he were boys together; and he wondered if Jack was going to ask for something. People were always asking for something, and old friends were the worst of all. He braced himself to open the letter, and frowned as he read the few lines it contained. Jack was not asking for something in the sense he had thought of—but what an impudent fellow! Mr. McGladkirk grew crimson as he read—

"Dear Old Man," wrote Jack, with the most amazing impudence, "I'm here in London again, having done pretty well since we met. Can you step cross and see me to-night? I can't get to you, for I've had an accident and twisted my foot. I've heard a lot about you lately, and I'd like to see you and hear the explanation about these women from your own lips. I'm sure it can't be true what they say of you—that you've treated them so brutally. Come over and have a smoke and a chat."

Mr. McGladkirk put down the letter in angry amazement. To address him thus! To expect him to "explain" his treatment of criminals!

He did not quite know how it was that he had made up his mind to go. He was walking along the

street fast before he remembered that no detective was with him. He looked round in a sudden panic, but, with a new and airy boldness, he decided to go without his usual seventeen.

He was mounting the steps now to Jack's flat; and he entered the room swiftly, almost without knocking. The room was dark; and suddenly Mr. McGladkirk found himself in a chair, and, glancing up, saw women looking at him—several women. He struggled to rise—were not women his natural born enemies? He struggled, but to his increasing horror he found he was being held firmly down in his chair; and his head was being pulled back, not by his hair—he had none—but by his ears!

"This is outrageous," he gasped. "You mean to murder me?"

"Oh, dear, no!" said the woman, who seemed to be in charge. "What an idea, Mr. McGladkirk! We are only going to feed you!"

"Feed me? I don't want to be fed," shrieked the Home Secretary, struggling.

"My dear man! You've been starved," said the woman, producing a tube, at which Mr. McGladkirk looked with growing apprehension and dismay. "You didn't have any dinner! Don't you remember? You were so absorbed in the debate—explaining how good you were being to the women, and what dreadful creatures they were—that you had nothing! And your lunch was light, too. We can't let you starve; so we are going to feed you with this nice little tube—we are going to put it up your nose and down your throat. Why," she went on, regardless of his struggles, as she inserted the tube into his nostrils, "what is all this fuss about? You know that forcible feeding is good for the patient, and quite pleasant and harmless, and not at all painful! It's only done out of a philanthropic desire to keep the patient happy. I'm sure you'll like it! Don't say you won't!"

Mr. McGladkirk was conscious of a horrible singing in his ears. He felt as if his head were being swollen to a monstrous size, and would presently burst like a bladder. He tried to tell them this, to explain that he could not bear this horrible pain; but they were quite callous to his sufferings, and only held him the tighter.

"Don't move about so! We shall only have to put it in again if you do. Is it too big, do you think?" asked the woman with the tube. He nodded, with his eyes almost bursting out of his head.

"Then we'll try a bigger one," said the woman, sweetly. "They always do that, you know," she added, in an explanatory tone.

"I'm just ready with the food," said another, tipping up a huge jug.

"Takes it like a lamb, doesn't he?" said a third. "He shall be fed three times a day. It's doing him heaps of good."

The choking feeling grew worse—he could no longer see or hear—he was barely conscious—he only knew that he had been the victim of an outrage that had bruised his body so that he could never recover his full strength again; that he felt murderous towards his assailants. And then he became conscious that the horrible tube had been removed, that he was left sick and aching and dizzy.

"But it's to be done again, three times a day," he murmured, and opened his eyes to find himself once more in his own room at home.

"It's that confounded lozenge," said Mr. McGladkirk furiously, as he realised he had had a bad dream through going to sleep with a lozenge in his mouth.

"I—I thought you asked me to remember to put you one," faltered his wife, who had just come into the room. "You said they did you good after speaking, and I knew you were to speak again to-night to explain about the forcible feeding."

But Ananias McGladkirk was not thinking about his wife just then. He was looking round the room with angry, frightened eyes.

"It was only a dream," he repeated again and again, trembling in every limb. "Only a dream; and—it can't be like that! If it was they couldn't stand it!"

And having so decided, he marched up to bed, a bold man again.

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THE MOVEMENT AT HOME

WOMEN AND THE EASTER CONFERENCES

Women, in some form or another, have made their presence felt at all the Easter conferences, this year. At the Teachers' Conference at Lowestoft, at the Independent Labour Party's Conference at Bradford, the Shop Assistants' at Leicester, and the Telephone Conference in London, resolutions either on equal political rights for men and women, or on equal salaries for men and women, occupied a prominent place on the programme and generally roused the warmest discussion that took place:

THE TEACHERS' CONFERENCE

Suffragists may be said to have overshadowed from the very first the Teachers' Conference that is being held this week at Lowestoft, as we go to Press. Apart from the presence in the town of large numbers of Suffragists, both militant and non-militant, and the announcement in the papers that Mrs. Pankhurst, if not arrested beforehand, would address a public meeting on Wednesday evening, the utmost precautions had been taken by the conveners of the Conference to avoid disturbances at any of the meetings. A drastic amendment to the standing orders was in fact passed on the opening day, empowering the Chair to suspend members in case of disorderly conduct from further attendance at the Conference, and, if necessary, from membership of the Union.

EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK

That women teachers should feel the need of enfranchisement so bitterly as to disturb the even tenor of Conferences on its behalf, is scarcely to be wondered at when we read in the report of the President's opening speech that while there are 2,153 head-masters receiving less than £120, there are 1,162 head-mistresses receiving less than £80, and 2,876 receiving less than £90! Yet, as Mrs. Fawcett points out in a letter to the Press, £6,000 of the funds of the N.U.T. is spent each year on direct Parliamentary representation, of which the greater part is contributed by the women members, who have no voice in that representation. It is easy to pass resolutions to stifle discussion, but under the circumstances no one can think it the right way of promoting peace with honour.

Psychological Drivel

During a discussion on Tuesday on the salaries of teachers, when a resolution was passed proposing a maximum of £200 a year for men and £120 for women (provincial), and of £250 for men and £200 for women (metropolitan), an amendment from the women proposing equal salaries for both was thrown out after a hot discussion, one man delegate distinguishing himself by telling the women to "drop their silly psychological drivel."

Girls as Important as Boys

The equal pay amendment was only introduced by Miss Dawson (Lambeth) when another amendment to the main resolution had been defeated. This other amendment, moved by Miss Croxon (Finsbury) proposed to delete the clause "that women teachers in boys' schools should be remunerated at the same rate as the men teachers in those schools."

Miss Croxon said she felt that such a condition would set up a barrier against equal pay for all men and women teachers which would never be broken down. It was apparently suggested that the teaching of boys was more arduous and of more value to the State than the teaching of girls, but she emphatically denied this. Girls, who were the coming mothers of the race, were every whit as important as the coming fathers. If there was to be any alteration in the salary it must go on the line of equal pay. It must not be given merely to protect the men.

An Insult to Womanhood

Miss New (Greenwich) seconded the amendment. Nothing would be so likely to bring disunion into the union, she said, as such a proposition. It was absolutely insulting to their womanhood. She was an infant teacher, and if they were going to be paid for the value of the work they did, infant teachers must be paid more than anybody else, for they had the destinies of the nation in their hands, and should be at the top of the salary scale.

On the loss of this amendment by a large majority, Miss Dawson moved the further amendment as stated above.

THE SUFFRAGE ITSELF

A debate on Woman Suffrage was expected to take place after we went to Press, for both the executive and thirty-eight branches of the Union had given their support to Suffrage resolutions. One branch (Waterloo) had put down a resolution declaring that the Union existed for

professional purposes, and should not waste time discussing Woman Suffrage—politics, we presume, being admissible when they mean the improvement of the man teacher's position, but not when they mean raising the status of the woman teacher!

THE SHOP ASSISTANTS' CONFERENCE

At Leicester, last Monday, during the annual conference of the Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Mr. Bradley (Edinburgh) moved a resolution urging the Government to grant votes to women.

Mr. Boardman (Bradford) objected to the conference being imposed upon by Suffragist societies. At every meeting they were bothered about something for women.

Mr. Oakley (Derby) moved an amendment substituting adult Suffrage for votes for women, and this was carried by a large majority and substituted for the original motion.

THE TELEPHONE WORKERS

Equal pay for equal work was under discussion last Saturday at the annual conference of the Amalgamated Society of Telephone Employees, and a resolution was put forward by the metropolitan branch and carried, urging the Postmaster-General to "discontinue employing further female staff for clerical duties, unless they were paid the same rate as the male staff."

Expressed in this truculent form, the resolution leaves us in some doubt as to whether the increase of women's salaries was really desired by the Conference, or only their exclusion from the telephone service altogether.

THE BAN ON MARRIAGE

When we went to Press last week, the London County Council was still debating whether, in the case of three newly-appointed women medical officers, it would set aside its universal rule of making it a condition that they should resign on marriage.

The discussion took place on Dr. Scott Lidgett's amendment to that effect, which had been moved the week before and was finally rejected by 72 votes to 30, some of those voting against it being opposed, not to the principle involved, but to taking any step in this particular instance.

Points from the Debate

Mr. J. W. Gilbert (chairman of the Education Committee) said the regulation requiring women in the service of the Council to resign on marriage was under the consideration of the General Purposes Committee, which would report to the Council, and in the meantime he asked that the appointments should be made in the usual form.

Dr. Scott Lidgett said he would withdraw the amendment if he had a guarantee that any alteration which the Council made in the regulation would be retrospective and would apply to the medical officers now appointed.

Mr. Gilbert said he could not anticipate the decision of the Council, but there would certainly be an opportunity of moving that any change should be retrospective.

Mr. E. Smith argued that though it was said that married women could not devote the same amount of attention to duties as single women could, the fact was that the best women workers were married. There were large numbers of married teachers and nurses who were rendering valuable public services. He rather thought it advisable that the lady doctors who attended the school children should be married. The motherly instinct was a very great asset to women who had delicate duties to discharge. It was wrong and against the spirit of the age to place an embargo on marriage.

Mr. Gordon said the Council insisted that the charwomen should resign on marriage and the same rule should apply to the lady doctors. It was not so much a question of individual liberty as one of social importance, involving grave economic problems.

The Women Councillors

Miss Adler said the Council should not only employ married lady doctors but also married nurses.

Miss Wallas said the Council needed women of experience and could not afford to dismiss women when they got married.

Lady St. Helier objected to the retention of the services of married lady doctors and disagreed with the employment of married women teachers. Married women could not do their duty to their families if they went out to work.

A PRESS COMMENT

The *Daily Herald* rightly comments:— "If society will not give the mother the dignity of independence, then the society must not be surprised if the heavy responsibilities of motherhood are firmly declined."

SCOTTISH HOME RULE AND WOMEN'S VOTES

Votes for Women Included in the Scheme

What is described by the *Manchester Guardian* as "the most representative expression ever given in Scotland in favour of Women's Suffrage," was demonstrated at the annual meeting of the Convention of Scottish Burghs which took place in Edinburgh last week. Two hundred burghs sent four hundred representatives, including two women, Provost Miss Lavinia Malcolm, of Dollar, and Mrs. Councillor Annie Barlow, of Callander.

Mr. Keith Hamilton presented the report of the committee on Local Self-Government for Scotland, which put forth the opinion that a federal system of local government would relieve the Imperial Government from the weight of unnecessary local legislative detail, and that it should be applied to Scotland among other divisions of the kingdom. The draft report included women's votes in the scheme, but the Annual Committee had deleted that part.

Should Women be Included?

Mrs. Barlow raised the question of Votes for Women in a proposed Scottish Legislature, and moved that the deleted clause be reinserted in the report. She asked them not to be influenced by their dislike of militancy, and demanded that justice should be done to the women who had worked for the franchise quietly, steadily, and on constitutional lines. Was there any man present who would dare say that the women of Scotland had not as much

intelligence as the women of the colonies or of Finland? (Applause and laughter.)

Agreement After Discussion

The Town Clerk of Falkirk moved that the report should stand as printed, excluding the words "giving women the vote."

Lord Provost Stevenson, of Glasgow, said that he was strongly in favour of votes for women.

A motion was finally carried, after some discussion, granting the vote to women on the present municipal basis, against a motion including women on the same basis as men.

MEN OF THE NORTH

In East Fife

The Northern Men's Federation, who would have hotly opposed the Prime Minister's candidature had there been a contest in East Fife, organised a successful demonstration at Leven last Saturday. Two large meetings were held at which the speakers announced their firm intention of opposing Mr. Asquith's return at the general election on account of his hostile attitude towards Woman Suffrage.

PENSIONS FOR WIDOWS

Mr. William Thorne has given notice of his intention to call attention in the House of Commons, on Wednesday, May 6, to the need for pensions for widows, and to move a resolution.

"PRISONS AND PRISONERS"

Some Further Extracts from the Reviews of Lady Constance Lytton's Book

Mr. John Scurr in the "Daily Herald"

I have put this book down with two feelings burning within me. Rage at the crass folly of my fellow humans in high places in believing that our prison system can in any way cure or prevent evil. Joy that there was a woman who faced all the contumely, drank deep of the waters of sorrow and suffering, and came through the ordeal with a keen desire to continue the fight for freedom, and with an insight and sympathetic knowledge of the problem which is seldom possessed by many who try to put this old world straight.

I can only thank Lady Constance for this book. When the struggle for the vote is over, and people will wonder why it was so hard and terrible, the book will still live. It has been sent forth with a mission. It cannot be put on one side until its work is accomplished—when Holloway and Pentonville and all our prisons are razed to the ground, when we recognise that punishment is folly, and that crime, not produced by economic reasons, is a disease and must be treated as such.

Above all, those of us who are engaged in the struggle for freeing humanity will always remember Jane Warton. Type of outraged womanhood—outraged in the home—in motherhood—in law—in the factory and the workshop—you offered yourself for womankind. The pathway has been stony, your body and soul have been bruised and sorely wounded. But it has not been in vain. You have heralded the dawn. You have been the messenger to prepare the way. And you have nerve us all for the struggle for men, women, and children. We thank you one and all. Out of your humility shall be born a new thought, a new impulse, a new world. Joy shall yet return to earth.

The Nation

Apart from the personal side, however, the book has a wider interest as an accurate picture of modern prison life, and of its effect both upon the officials and the prisoners. The author writes a peculiarly quiet and deliberate style. Detail is added to detail till, as has been well said, the result is like the work of a Russian writer. Perhaps this method is partly due to the paralysis (the first symptom of which appeared a few months after the forcible feeding, but passed away for a time). All the writing had to be painfully done with the left hand, so that a certain directness and brevity of language were likely. But the mind must be singularly observant. Nothing escapes it. No detail of surroundings or of the personalities of men and women passes unnoticed. It is minutely

exact in the practical sphere of woman's interest—the washing, the food, clothes, medicine, and manners. The style throughout is concrete and humorous rather than passionate. And this quietude and clearness of vision give all the greater value to the ultimate judgments upon the effects of prison life.

The New Statesman

There are some books of which praise must necessarily seem impertinent; their literary merit, however considerable in itself, is so negligible in comparison with the force and simplicity of their personal message. Such a book is this of Lady Constance Lytton's. In it she tells with gentleness, with sincerity, without bitterness, without resentment, the story of martyrdom for a belief—of course, like all martyrdom, voluntarily encountered. Even those most profoundly convinced that militancy is a mistaken policy will not hesitate to recognise how profound was the opposite conviction, in all her militant actions, of the writer of "Prisons and Prisoners"—her motives were beyond cavil or dispute.

T. P. S. Weekly

"Prisons and Prisoners" has been called the history of the making of a Suffragette—it could with equal truth be called the history of the making of a martyr—it really tells of the complete triumph of the spirit over the body.

Mr. E. Manning Foster in the "Daily Citizen"

I have read several books on prison life by those who have had experience of it, but I have never read one that has left so deep an impression on my mind. It is tragically sincere. A fine courage, a splendid reasonableness, an intense sympathy pervade it. And the writer, in her seriousness and intensity, has not lost her sense of humour. It peeps out in these pages. . . . It is of her book as literature that I would speak. And literature it assuredly is, the kind of literature that must leave its mark on the age and help to change the trend of people's thoughts in this country. For no one could read this book, with its description of life at Holloway, Walton, and elsewhere, without being impressed by its truth. Here is no sensationalism trying to work upon the feelings of the public by highly-coloured and lurid pictures of prison life. Here are plain, sober, straightforward statements.

[Fellows and other readers of the paper are reminded that they can purchase copies of this valuable book by Lady Constance Lytton from the Business Secretary, Votes for Women Fellowship, 47, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, E.C. price 2s. 6d. each. It is particularly hoped that they will take this opportunity of obtaining it and sending it to other friends.]

IN OTHER COUNTRIES

Victory expected in Denmark—Another Canadian Town gives Votes to Women—The Illinois Elections—Suffrage Bill re-introduced into Senate

DENMARK

(From Our Own Correspondent)

Our Danish correspondent sends us the following important communication with regard to the Government Reform Bill (which enfranchises women on equal terms with men and is now waiting to pass through the Upper House):—

Three of our parties (Liberal, Radical, and Social-Democrat) have agreed to an amendment of our Constitution that will grant the political vote to all women twenty-five years of age. One vote in the Upper House is "uncertain," and it is believed that it will be cast in favour of the Bill; if so, victory is sure.

The Bill in question enfranchises women upon equal terms with men. The Suffrage is then universal for both Houses (we have had it universal adult as far as men were concerned, for the Lower House). It is only in the Upper House that it has to be carried this time. Then a General Election will take place at which the parties have agreed to let it be "status quo." Having again passed both Houses the Bill will become law when it has been signed by the King (probably on the 5th of June, which is the anniversary of the "Free Constitution" for the men). The second passage and the signature of the King are only formalities. Everything depends upon the division in the Upper House immediately after Easter, but everybody seems to be hopeful.

It will be fine to be political citizens in June at the Scandinavian Women's Congress to be held in Copenhagen, when we have to receive guests from the other Scandinavian countries which have given women the vote (except Sweden, where everything is in a muddle at present!).

Women's Union to Continue

Over here we do not think that we have got all that we want when we get the vote, so we do not dissolve the Union. We know that recognising us in words is not the same thing as recognising us in deeds. There will be a struggle, and we want to remain organised till it is clear that women are there and that their opinions must be considered. It will be delightful to-morrow to attend a meeting where "the Programme after obtaining the Vote" will be discussed!

TH. DAUGAARD.

FRANCE

Reuter's Paris correspondent states that the Court of Cassation has passed judgment refusing women the exercise of political rights and registration on electoral lists, *no legal measure having been passed conferring upon them these rights*.

This decision of the courts does not surprise us in the least. We are used in this country to the way that judge-made law operates where women are concerned.

SWITZERLAND

It is interesting to find in the *Gazette de Lausanne* (March 15) that so distinguished a man of science as M. Maurice Muret, Professor of Gynaecology in the University of Lausanne, takes up the cudgels in defence of Woman Suffrage. Demolishing the "Anti" argument that woman has already enough influence, though she does not use it, he says:—

"Etant une personne au sens légal du mot, il faut que la femme ait non seulement les charges, mais aussi les droits inhérents à cette qualité. C'est pour obtenir ces mêmes droits que les hommes ont lutté et luttent encore avec acharnement dans tous les pays qui ne sont plus tout à fait barbares. La liberté économique de la femme, qui est la question poignante de l'heure actuelle, ne saurait être obtenue que par la contribution de la femme à l'œuvre du législateur."

"Lorsque la femme sera majeure, mais alors seulement, nous serons en droit de lui parler de sa responsabilité, et de l'influence qu'elle devrait exercer sur le progrès de l'humanité."

CHINA

According to the *Daily Mirror* one of the Chinese Suffragists is coming to England shortly to lecture on the movement in her country. Remembering the

gallant manner in which the Chinese women helped the men revolutionaries to gain their constitution, and the equally gallant way in which they fought for the inclusion of women in that constitution, we look forward with great interest to the promised visit from one of the women's leaders.

CANADA

Victory in Alberta

In its new charter Lethbridge, in Alberta, has adopted Woman Suffrage on equal terms with men. One of the first-fruits of this victory has been the election of Miss Esther M. Jones as city clerk, the first appointment of a woman to this office in a Canadian city.

UNITED STATES

86 Per Cent. of Women Use Their Votes

THE ILLINOIS ELECTIONS

More than one Anti-Suffragist bogey was dissipated in the State of Illinois last Tuesday, when the women exercised the vote for the first time in the municipal elections. Contrary to the theory that women "will not use their votes," 80 per cent. of the women voted, and 70 per cent. of these, outside Chicago, voted against the liquor interest, with the result, it is said, that some 1,000 bar-rooms in the smaller cities and towns have been closed. In Chicago itself the liquor interest was too strong for the Suffragists and the temperance reform party, and all the nine woman aldermanic candidates were defeated, women's votes as well as men's contributing to this result according to the foreign correspondents of our daily newspapers who, of course, are not infallible where facts concerning the woman's movement are in question. The general inference to be drawn seems, however, to be that the women of Chicago did go to the polls in larger numbers than the men (only 70 per cent. of whom voted), that they did not vote exclusively for the women candidates, and that they voted rather as human beings than as women—as Suffragists always said they would!

The New York correspondent of the *Daily News* states that the unsuccessful woman candidate in the most disreputable ward of Chicago polled twice as many votes as her predecessor, a man candidate, had polled against the same opponent, a notorious backer of the evil interests of the place; and this result, he says, is undoubtedly to be attributed to the introduction of the women's vote, even though numbers of the women preferred to vote for her opponent.

Press Comments

The *Times* (April 13), in a remarkable leading article on "Feminism in the United States," in which it asserts that "feminism is raising him [the American man] fore and aft," says of the Illinois elections that these "are only the latest of many proofs that the American women, like the women of most other countries, are seeking and achieving a new political prominence."

The *Manchester Guardian*, also in a leading article, discusses the failure of the Anti-Suffragist theory, as shown in the Illinois results; and speaking of this theory, says: "The way in which the newly-enfranchised women have voted in Chicago and throughout Illinois is one of the strongest possible arguments for Women's Suffrage. The general Suffragist belief has always been that women would, as a rule, vote simply as human beings and citizens. The general Anti-Suffragist belief has been that they would, as a rule, vote as women, or rather as anti-men."

The *Daily Herald* says: "Eighty per cent. of the women went to the poll and voted for and on behalf of purity in public life, against the liquor traffic, and without any regard to sex qualifications, that is to say, they voted for men or women, not because they were either men or women, but because of the principles they stood for."

DEATH OF AN ANCIENT JOKE

An ancient joke met its death lately in the Chicago registration booths, for in spite of many prognostications to the contrary the newly-enfranchised women did not show the least reluctance in stating their ages or any desire to give them in a whisper. As for the baby, who is popularly supposed to be doomed if its mother has to go to the polling booth once in five years (when women have votes, do their babies never grow up?), that difficulty was settled once and for all by the Chicago women, many

of whom acted as election agents on this occasion by the simple plan of providing nurseries near the booths where the babies could be left while their mothers were registering, or trained nurses to take charge of them in their homes if the mothers preferred to leave them there.

Really, it is a pity that the "Anti" objector does not give women the credit of having a little sense in these matters! But, of course, if he thought women had any sense he would not be an Anti.

THE CHICAGO POLICEWOMEN

According to the *Daily Mail*, twelve of the policewomen of Chicago, having passed the necessary tests, have acquired the right to use revolvers. The deputy superintendent stated that they proved better marks-men than the men; indeed, he added, no twelve men selected at random from the force would have equalled the women's average score.

We really have to keep reminding ourselves very hard that women cannot fight!

THE CONGRESSIONAL AMENDMENT

The Federal amendment to the U.S. Constitution prohibiting the disfranchisement of American citizens on the ground of sex, which failed by eleven votes to reach the required two-thirds vote of the Senate when it went to a division on March 19, was reintroduced in the Senate on March 20, and at once referred to the Senate Committee on Woman Suffrage. A favourable report on the Bill is daily expected. The Bill is still before the

Judiciary Committee of the House (Lower House of Congress).

American Suffragists have great hopes that the monster Suffrage demonstration in which all the States will take part, which will be held on May 2 in Washington, will have a favourable effect on Congress and ensure the passage of the Bill through the Senate with the required majority.

THE IMMIGRATION BILL

We commented a week or two ago on a clause in the Immigration Bill now before Congress, by which "any alien who within three years after entry shall be found advocating or teaching the unlawful destruction of property, or advocating or teaching anarchy, or the overthrow by force or violence of organised government, or the assassination of public officials," shall be summarily deported.

A number of American Suffragists are most indignant at the insertion of this clause which they regard rightly as an infringement of the rights of political refugees, and as aimed particularly against English Militant Suffragists. The objectionable cause was passed by the House, and the Bill, if passed by the Senate, will in due course become law.

The *Suffragist*, commenting on the clause, says: "It is impossible for men in general to see present day revolutionary movements in their proper light. The same man who glorifies George Washington would close the gates of America against Mrs. Pankhurst. The one was successful and is dead. The other is still struggling and is only half dead."

THE NIGHT COURT IN NEW YORK

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

[The following very interesting account of the Night Court held in New York has been sent to us by Miss Dorothy Pethick who, with Miss Margaret Hodge, is making a Suffrage tour through the United States and Canada.]

Equipped with a personal introduction to the judge and the matron of the Night-Court, Miss Hodge and I made our way there about 8.30 p.m. The matron, though very busy interviewing and training her probationers before the court opened, was good enough to spare us ten minutes, which time we employed in gaining as much information as we could. We learned that the Night-Court of New York is the only one in the world, and that it was originally instituted in order to deal quickly with charges brought against men and women who had been arrested after the usual Day-Court had risen, with a view to curtailing the hours of detention in the case of innocent defendants, and meeting the difficulty of bail in the case of all.

A Woman's Idea

We gathered that it was largely owing to the recommendation of the police matron, Miss Smith—a strong, practical, large-hearted woman, as far as appearance spoke—that in August, 1910, cases of men and women were separated, and the Night-Court was reserved solely for women's cases. The matron, with her staff of probationers and voluntary helpers, plays a very important part by virtue of her investigations, in helping the judge to understand the circumstances and outlook of the women brought before him, and it was a surprising thing to English women to see the matron telling the judge in an undertone in the presence of the whole court the result of her investigations and her judgment in regard to the case before him. We could not help wondering when the time would come when English men-judges and magistrates would reach even this point and realise their utter inability to understand and, therefore, also to judge members of the opposite sex without attempting to take any women into consultation.

New York is a long way removed from that ideal of Suffragists—that a woman shall be tried by her peers—but at any rate she is one stage less backward in civilisation in this respect than England. The cases before the court were of exceptional interest, particularly that of a woman being charged on two counts—(a) selling liquor on premises without a licence and (b) keeping a disorderly house. Many young girls who were found on the premises were also

charged, found guilty, and sentenced. The case was a long one, and evidence was very thoroughly sifted, and the judge dealt with great fairness and utmost leniency whenever possible, but under the man-made laws, of course, the women paid all the penalty.

A Contrast With England

The incident struck us very favourably in comparing this police-court with those in England. The defendant, through counsel, tried to inculpate the detective who witnessed against her; the judge, desiring to test the detective, subjected him to a most rigorous, searching cross-examination, out of which, however, he came to the full satisfaction of the judge and of ourselves. We were forcefully reminded of the police-magistrate in London, only a few months back, who dismissed conflicting evidence against a police constable by the extraordinary statement that "a policeman's stock-in-trade is truth," or, in other words, a police officer can do no wrong! In our interview with the judge afterwards we congratulated him on this score. His reply was to the effect that he was always much more rigorous with police officers on the point of truth and morality, as they were in such a privileged position, and therefore offences committed by them were so much the more serious.

Liquor Interest Wins!

The conclusion of the trial came as a shock, more particularly perhaps to Miss Hodge than to me, by reason of her Australian citizenship and the fact that in her country human life counts for more than property. The accused woman was bound over in \$1,500 bail on the first count to come before a higher court—this court not being adequate to deal with such a serious offence—while on the second count she was sentenced to six months' imprisonment. We could hardly believe we had heard correctly, and Miss Hodge appealed to the gentleman sitting next her, who had been explaining other points to her during the evening. His answer was as amazing as the decision of the court—"Well, but you do not realise how enormous the liquor duties are and how much the State loses when licences are not taken up." To our expression of indignation that the State should consider it a more serious disaster to lose financial profit than to lose the health and honour of its manhood and womanhood, he only gave a blank, indulgent smile, and he would evidently be one of those who think the world will be turned upside-down when women get the vote.

May that bouleversement come with all speed to both America and England!

Dorothy Pethick.

WOMEN IN THE CIVIL SERVICE

Commission Divided on Question of Opening Higher Grades to Women—Men and Women's Work Compared

The Report of the Royal Commission on the Civil Service has now been issued, and we give below the principal recommendations with regard to women.

It will be seen that with the exception of six out of the nineteen members, viz., the Bishop of Southwark, Mr. Beck, Mr. Clynes, Mr. Snowden, Miss Haldane, and Miss Streatfeild, the Commissioners favour the retention of the sex bar to the highest class of the Civil Service. Eleven out of nineteen favour the retention of compulsory retirement on marriage.

On the other hand, all the members are united in recommending the wider employment of women in the lower grades and as inspectors of women's work, and sixteen definitely advocate equal pay for equal work, while nine specifically reject the suggestion that the work of men is essentially more efficient.

MAJORITY REPORT

In its Chapter X., dealing with the employment of women, the Majority Report gives details of the number of women at present employed, and proceeds as follows (we give the number of the sections for reference):—

(17) During recent years remarkable progress has been made in extending to women facilities for obtaining higher education, especially education of the University standard—progress which is reflected in the part which women are taking in the intellectual life of the country.

One of the results of this tendency is that there is now a larger number of women possessing scholastic and academic qualifications than ever before, and that a systematic effort is being made to find outlets for the abundant activities which have been directed into this channel.

(18) It has been represented to us "that the best interests of the community would be furthered by increasing the number of women in the departments of the Civil Service outside the Post Office, and by improving the conditions of their employment."

In dealing with the principles which should govern the recruitment of men we submitted that it was not legitimate to take a particular course of action simply with the view to providing a career for a particular class of the community, but that the sole object of recruitment should be to provide the most efficient public service possible consistently with economy on the one hand and satisfactory conditions of labour on the other.

We desire to re-affirm this principle in connection with the employment of women and to record our unanimous opinion that the object should be, not to provide employment for women as such, but to secure for the State the advantage of the services of women whenever those services will best promote its interests; and we are glad to recognise that this principle has been accepted as the true criterion of action by women of great authority who have given us the benefit of their evidence.

The Superiority of Men

(19) But other views have also been represented. It has been urged before us, for instance, that justice requires that in recruiting the public service the difference of sex should be ignored.

We cannot accept this contention, which presupposes the complete interchangeability of women with men in the Civil Service. But the evidence shows that in power of sustained work, in the continuity of service, and in adaptability to varying service conditions, the advantage lies with men.

Discharge on Marriage

(20) Certain conditions now differentiate female from male employment in the Civil Service; we proceed to describe these conditions and to consider how far it is necessary or desirable to maintain them. An existing rule requires established service to be terminated on marriage, and authorizes payment of a gratuity in such cases representing one month's salary for each year of service up to the limit of one year's salary.

Though by the operation of this rule the Service loses the value of a woman's prior training, the majority of us regard it as essential to maintain the existing rule intact, and apart from considerations as to the welfare of the family (and these must not be ignored), believe that the responsibilities of married life are normally incompatible with the devotion of a woman's whole-time and unimpaired energy to the Public Service.

Equal Pay for Equal Work

(21) At the present time the general practice of the Service is that the salaries of women should be fixed on a lower scale than those of men of similar or analogous status, and the only cases in which exception has been made to this rule, so far as we are aware, are those of the women Health Insurance Commissioners and Health Officers.

The majority of us recommend that, in so far as the character and conditions of the work performed by women in the Civil Service approximate to identity with the character and conditions of the work performed by men, the pay of women should approximate to equality with that of men.

The evidence which we have received indicates that women's services are (subject to exceptions which in the higher branches are important) less efficient on the whole than those of men. A considerable proportion, for instance, of women civil servants marry and leave the Service before they have reached their full degree of efficiency, and men are, we are told, more likely than women to stand the extra exertion called for at a crisis. In so far as this difference of efficiency exists the salaries of men should, we believe, remain higher than those of women.

But the actual differences in salaries which have been brought before us do not seem to result from any general consideration of the problem. For instance, we find that highly-qualified women Inspectors receive, in many cases, salaries little more than one-half of those paid to men Inspectors of similar grade employed in the same department. We therefore recommend that the Treasury should institute a general inquiry with the object of removing inequalities of salary not based on differences in the efficiency of service.

A Minority Favour Unequal Pay

(22) On the other hand a minority of us, while supporting the proposal for inquiry hereafter put forward, hold that the scale of salaries for women employed in the Civil Service should be lower than the scale for men in similar situations. In employments outside the Service this difference of scale obtains, and it is justified by the consideration that, on the whole, and when measured by its output over a substantial period of time, the work of the women engaged in a given employment is less productive than that of the men. Moreover, the scale for men in the open market is governed by the fact that normally the great majority of those offering themselves for employment, in situations comparable with those of the Service, are married breadwinners with family responsibilities. Of the women, normally the great majority are unmarried and free from these responsibilities. The scale that would adequately meet the case of the men would be excessive in the case of the women.

Employment of More Women

(23) What then, it must be asked, are the special forms of activity in which,

subject to the general conditions indicated above, the work of women is most likely to be valuable to the Public Service?

Foremost in importance and extent are those concerned with the interests of women themselves and of children.

The State now deals constantly with questions which have been made the subject of special study by many competent and experienced women. These questions concern the nurture and education of children, the health and housing of the people, sickness insurance for women, the administration of the Poor Law so far as it devolves upon the Central Government, industrial conditions and wages, the welfare of women in reformatories, prisons, workhouses, and asylums.

In all such cases there is a wide field for the work of women who have trained themselves for these special branches of service.

(24) The presence of women upon the Inspectorates of the Departments of Education, Local Government, and Prisons in the three kingdoms proves the acceptance by the Government of the principle that the State should avail itself of those qualities which women are capable of bringing to bear upon these branches of administration. But having regard to the very large numbers of the classes whose welfare is concerned we cannot think that the present proportion of female to male officials indicates an adequate appreciation of the service which women are here able to render.

Other Specific Suggestions

Among other specific proposals with regard to women the report recommends that:—

Women should be eligible for employment in the museums and libraries subject to certain conditions, as they already are in the British Museum.

Specially-qualified women should be eligible for appointment to particular administrative situations in certain departments and should be selected by the method used for recruitment of professional officers.

An inquiry should be held by the Treasury to ascertain the clerical, inspectorial, and administrative positions which should be filled by women and the salaries they should receive.

Female clerks should, where employed, be accommodated separately from male clerks and work under female supervision.

The educational tests used for selecting female clerks should be restricted to women only and co-ordinated with the actual conditions of female education, and "cramming" should be discouraged.

The salary of female clerks should be governed by the general principle recommended, but should not be less than £65 per annum.

The age limits for female typists should be 18 to 28; the examination should comprise tests both of education and of manipulative skill, a high standard in the latter being a condition of success.

Female shorthand-writer typists should be recruited from the typist class.

The scales of salary should be for— Typists, £1 a week rising by 2s. a week to £1 12s. a week.

Shorthand-writer typists, £1 6s. by 2s. a week to £2 2s. a week.

The employment of female typists should be extended.

Promotion should be allowed from the typist to the clerical class in cases of exceptional merit.

Overtime should be strictly limited, and should be paid for whenever worked.

ANOTHER VIEW

Greater Efficiency of Men Denied

Eight members of the Commission who sign the majority report take exception to the paragraph expressing belief in the greater efficiency of men. They say:—

While we recognise the value of many of the recommendations as to women, and the wisdom of not going in advance of

public opinion, we think the Report, in fact, lags behind the times.

We desire to record our dissent from the second paragraph of section 19 of Chapter X. in which it is stated that "the evidence shows that in power of sustained work, in the continuity of service, and in adaptability to varying service conditions the advantage lies with men."

We believe that efficiency in clerical, as in other forms of labour, depends in part upon the food, housing, recreation, &c., made possible by the salary paid. For this reason we think that no fair inference can be drawn as to the efficiency of the two sexes from a comparison between the work of the existing women clerks and that of male clerks enjoying much larger salaries. And we do not think that the evidence before us (in so far as it is based upon actual experience and not *a priori* consideration) justifies the statement, even with regard to existing facts, that "in adaptability to varying service conditions the advantage lies with men."

The evidence given by the Deputy Chief Cashier of the Bank of England is a striking illustration of the effect on the efficiency of the women clerks of an improvement in conditions.

Retirement on Marriage

We are unable to agree to a hard and fast regulation of compulsory retirement on marriage. We believe that there are many cases, especially in the higher grade of work or where women are appointed for highly specialised knowledge, in which the enforcement of this rule would act to the public disadvantage.

They proceed to make various suggestions for promotion of women clerks and in particular recommend that in view of the fact that 58,700 women and girls are employed in the Post Office, 1,250 in other Public Offices, and 1,000 under the War Office, Admiralty, and Prisons Departments (excluding the nurses belonging to the Naval and Military establishments), provision should be made for the inclusion on the staff of the new section in the Treasury of a woman who shall be in a position to advise on matters affecting the organisation of women in the service.

The signatories are the Bishop of Southwark, Sir Kenneth Muir Mackenzie, Mr. Cecil Beck, M.P., Mr. J. R. Clynes, M.P., Mr. Philip Snowden, M.P., Mr. Graham Wallas, Miss Haldane, and Miss Streatfeild.

A further reservation, signed by all the above except Mr. Clynes and Mr. Graham Wallas, is to the effect that Class I. of the Civil Service (the highest and best paid class) should not be permanently closed to women. This important recommendation we set out in large type in the middle of the page.

MINORITY REPORT

In addition to the Majority Report and the reservations to it given above, there is a Minority Report signed by Sir Henry Primrose, Mr. Booth, and Sir Guy Garnet. Their attitude to the employment of women is summed up in the following sentences:—

From the point of view of justice we do not admit that women, as a class, have an inherent right to State employment any more than has any particular class of men. With all alike it is a question of fitness, rather than of right, as between class and class, or between sex and sex.

As to the proposition that no discrimination should be made between men and women, either as regards access to the public service or as regards their treatment when in it, the question seems to us to be mainly one of expediency so far as the public service is concerned, and on this ground alone we should be disposed to reject any such claim without troubling ourselves to discuss the matter as an abstract problem of social organisation, or to consider how far or with what results, the principle has in fact been applied in practice in regions outside the Civil Service. It can hardly be questioned that acceptance of the doctrine as one for universal application would mean the complete transformation of a service now consisting for the most part of men only. That being so, it seems to us that a general change so momentous could only be justified, if it could be shown that some distinct advantage for the service would be gained by it, and so far we are unable to see that it would have any such result.

As to the proposition that no distinction should be made between men and women in respect of rate of remuneration, we think that the answer to the riddle will best be found by leaving it to the play of circumstance rather than by attempting to define a dogma with precision.

SEX BARRIER TO CLASS I.

Six Members of Commission Favour Ultimate Removal

We desire to express the view that the opening of the Class I. examination to women, though it may possibly be regarded as inexpedient at the present time, should not be considered to be so in permanency. A limited number of places should, we submit, be assigned to women, and whether they compete separately for these places or along with the men should be a matter for arrangement. Admission by a less normal method might, we think, lead to misunderstanding on the part of the public, since it might on the one hand lead to the inference that women found their way into administrative posts more easily than men, or, on the other hand, seem to imply that their position and prospects in the higher class were prejudiced. We agree with weighty evidence which was laid before us to the effect that a system which precludes women from competing in Class I. examination in the ordinary way, cannot be regarded as satisfactory or just.

(Signed) Hubert M. Southwark, Kenneth Muir Mackenzie, Cecil Beck, Philip Snowden, Elizabeth S. Haldane, Lucy A. E. Deane Streatfeild.

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Avoid cheap, worthless imitations which have no restorative
properties and do not contain that delightful perfume—Olive
of Roses—for which ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL
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BOOKS RECEIVED

"Pioneer Work for Women." By Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell.
(London: J. M. Dent and Son. Price 1s.)
"Ragged Staff Rhymes." By A. Sedgwick Barnard.
(Birmingham: Cornish Bros. Ltd. Price 6d. net.)

NEW BOOKS

"MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE" *

The second edition of Mr. Cecil Chapman's book is proof of two things, the interest taken in the subjects of marriage and divorce, and the excellence of the way in which they are treated. The author, in setting forth reasons why divorce should be a possibility for the many, and not only, as at present, the privilege of the few, does not in any sense detract from the highest conception of marriage; but he points out that marriage viewed ideally as a mystic as well as a physical union and marriage viewed as an historical institution are two different things. He traces its development in different stages of civilisation, traces it historically and in its ecclesiastical aspect, down to our own times and in various countries, and he shows how in the present day and present conditions it affects and is affected by the status of women. He shows the various respects in which marriage laws press hardly upon the sex regarded ecclesiastically and politically as inferior; and he shows the terrible burdens which women have to bear, the hardships and horrors they have to endure—and the poorer the women the more certainly inevitable the endurance—owing to the difficulty and expense of obtaining divorce. That greater facilities in the granting of divorce would lead to an increased respect for the marriage tie and not at all to a lower standard of morality is Mr. Chapman's contention. He pleads for the reality of the sanctity of marriage, in contra-distinction to the mere maintenance of the outer form. G.

IN DEFILEMENT UNFILED +

Mary Dunne was a victim of the white slave traffic and her story is told with the force that comes from restraint, from direct simplicity and a sense of humour. There is no highly coloured description in this arresting book, no piling up of the agony; the author feels that the facts in themselves are so strong as to need no embellishment of worked up emotion, and the result is real pathos, real tragedy, real drama.

A victim of the system of degradation known as the white slave trade, Mary is yet not degraded by the infamy to which she falls a prey. The author makes clear the idea which is one of the ideas formulated and fathered by the Woman's Movement, that a woman's purity is a deeper and a higher thing than bodily chastity, and though men may pollute the body, the soul of a pure woman may remain untarnished. Mary Dunne has a fine soul: because of the fineness of it her suffering is intense, and because of the pureness of it her heroism stands firm. For she is heroic. The secret which she guarded zealously she proclaims publicly in order to save the man she loves; and none but those of nature as delicate as her own can appreciate what the proclamation cost her. Her character, as painted by Mrs. Francis Blundell, stands forth simple, refined, sensitive, so truly portrayed that readers of her story cannot fail to realise it. All the characters indeed are alive, and the Irish tenderness, the Irish humour, the Irish speech—and there is much of these in the book—are delightful. G.

THE TRAINING OF THE CHILD †

This little book, small in bulk, is large in scope, as its name implies. The word education in the title is not used in the narrow sense of instruction, but of the wider one of training. Mrs. Rhodes-Wallace is insistent upon the point that children require different methods of training at different ages, and that according to the age of the children should be the ideas presented to them. She claims the story as one of the most potent instruments of the teacher.

The successful result of a well-told story is the quickening of the ideal self. The imagination is a safeguard against temptation, and moral impressions influence a child long after the story is forgotten.

We should not perhaps always agree with the author in her choice of stories. The idea that God requires a sacrifice of some kind, if not a child, then certainly a ram, as brought forward in "The sacrifice of Isaac," does not seem to us to tend to the quickening of the ideal self; but many of her theories call for cordial agreement; such, for instance, as the following:

It is not our business to fill children with Biblical facts, but to set the currents of the soul in channels of truth.

That is true. The important thing is to be careful as to what is truth. G.

PAPER-SELLING REPORT

Our sellers are to be congratulated on the results at recent meetings, &c. Pitches, also, have increasing sales, and captains are anxious for more workers to keep up their high record.

One of our captains has succeeded in finding new helpers at her pitch. Will other captains try to do this, in order that fresh sellers, coming to headquarters, may be drafted to unsupplied districts?

* "Marriage and Divorce." By Cecil Chapman. (David Nutt. 2nd edition. Price 2s. 6d.)

+ "The Story of Mary Dunne." By M. E. Francis (Mrs. Francis Blundell). (John Murray. 6s.)

† "Religious Education for New Thought Children." By Helen Rhodes-Wallace. (The London Book Concern. 2s.)

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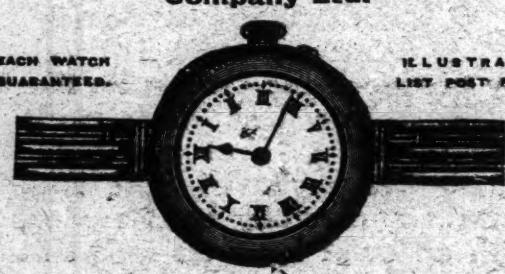
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Extract from "Goldsmith's Review."
March 28th, 1914.

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Telegraphic Address:—Votewom, Fleet, London.
Telephone:—Holborn 5886 (2 lines).

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 1914

EMPLOYMENT OF MARRIED WOMEN

The London County Council have recently appointed three women doctors. By a general rule, which we understand applies to all women employees under the Council, employment terminates on marriage. Rev. Dr. Scott Lidgett moved to exempt the three women doctors from the operation of this rule, but his motion was defeated on Tuesday in last week by 72 votes to 30. Unless, therefore, the rule itself be amended, as possibly may be the case, the women doctors will, in the event of their marriage, automatically cease to be employed.

In view of the public interest which this decision has evoked, and the fact that the National Civil Service as well as many other local bodies besides the L.C.C. have similar rules, it is important to take this opportunity of reviewing the whole situation. As far as we can see there are only five grounds on which an attempt could be made to defend such rules. Of these, three, in our view, are wholly illegitimate; the other two are legitimate, but, as we shall proceed to show, unsound.

To take the legitimate grounds first, it would be a perfectly proper provision to terminate a woman's employment on marriage if it could be shown that the fact of marriage in itself made the ministrations of a woman of less value. If a married woman doctor, for instance, could not be relied upon to give as good advice to her patients as her spinster sister, if a woman, on marriage, became less capable of understanding or teaching children, then it would be natural and right that the employing body should take these facts into account, and, in the interests both of the ratepayers and of those to whom the services are rendered, should enact that the engagement of a woman ceased on her marriage. Of course, it is well known that the exact contrary is the case. Marriage makes a woman not less but more efficient, both as a doctor and as a teacher, and therefore this cannot be the ground on which

it is sought to debar married women from employment.

Again, it would be perfectly legitimate if the decision were based on the ground that the fact of marriage of itself prevented a woman from carrying out, in whole or in part, the required duties of doctor or teacher. But this supposition is directly negatived by the fact that there are many married women who, as doctors, teachers, or in other capacities, are working regularly fully as long hours as those demanded by the Council.

On the other hand, it is an illegitimate reason if the provision is based on the fact that a married woman, if she has children, will be debarred from work for some weeks before and some weeks after childbirth. In the first place, many married women, either from choice or from circumstances over which they have no control, do not have children. In the second place, an occasional sickleave of six weeks or two months is not a wholly unwarrantable request, and would in all probability be granted to a man if his services were otherwise satisfactory—even if the fact that the service of the woman is one rendered to the State, and is akin to that rendered by the reservist in going to the field of battle, be not taken into consideration. But the real point is that the question does not arise on marriage, but if and when the demand for special leave is put forward. Then, and not till then, has the Council a right to a say in the matter.

It is still more improper if the provision is made in the supposed interest of the husband, home, or children of the woman who is to be employed. The idea that a woman is to be driven into maternity or into housekeeping by shutting her out from other occupations is not only a gross impertinence which the modern woman very properly resents, it is an outrage upon our ideas of personal liberty and even of decency. It is to make woman sub-human, a kind of superior animal who is to be allowed a choice of occupations in life, only so long as they do not conflict with man's supreme use of her to bear and bring up his children, and to take care of his home.

The only remaining ground that can be alleged is economic. Married women who are already "supported" by their husbands ought not, it may be suggested, to be allowed to compete for employment with men or with unmarried women who need the work more than themselves. The fallacy of this proposition can be shown either from realising that married women are often from force of circumstances driven to be the breadwinners of the family, or on the general ground that no such economic contention can be maintained. If a woman has a talent for doctoring or teaching, and decides to continue these occupations after marriage, and to pay another woman to do her housekeeping and to look after her nursery during working hours, it will be obviously in the interests of the community to allow her to use these talents. For men—her competitors for employment—to attempt to place artificial restrictions upon her in order to protect themselves against her, is a gross and tyrannous proceeding.

These provisions, enforced by the Councils, have two main effects. Firstly, they strengthen the opposition which is growing among women against the already onerous conditions of the marriage tie. In other words, they act in restraint of marriage, and, if for that reason alone, should be regarded with grave suspicion. Secondly, they operate to keep the wages of women at a lower level than those of men by shortening the tenure of skilled employment by women, and by driving those married women, who have to earn the living of the family, into less skilled employments, which are thereby unnecessarily overcrowded.

The women's movement, of which the demand for the political vote is the definite and concrete expression, is diametrically opposed to all these artificial restrictions upon the liberty of women. Whether it is right or wise or advantageous for an individual woman to give up her occupation on marriage is a question upon which she, and she alone, must have the final voice. When that complete freedom of choice is hers she will no doubt, in a very large number of cases, decide in the same sense as the provisions of the L.C.C. and the other Councils. But there will be cases when she will quite rightly take an opposite course. And the essential fact is that the decision in all cases will be her own, and will not be foisted upon her by an external authority.

HOW GERMAN LAW PROTECTS WOMEN AND CHILDREN

By Gertrude E. Metcalfe Shaw

When, in talking with German friends, the conversation turns, as it frequently does, on the struggle for liberty which is being carried on by some of the women of England, my introductory facts are met almost invariably by the astonished exclamation: "What! is this possible in England, the land of freedom?"

The land of Freedom! The home of Justice! How much, I wonder, of the coldness and apathy of the public springs from these catchwords, which we have so learnt to regard as true in reference to our sacred national institutions that the very suggestion of laws unjust, administration unequal, justice vitiated, comes to many outside the Suffrage movement as an unheard-of and incredible proposition. So at least it first came to me, and one of the most vivid of the recollections connected with my introduction to the subject, not quite two years ago, is the state of mingled indignation and amazement into which I was thrown by the revelations of *VOTES FOR WOMEN*, read then for the first time—as, faced by indisputable facts, I discovered that in my assumptions as to my own country I had all my life owed my peace of mind to hearsay. The passage from incredulity to gradual apprehension, the rocking of the solid foundations of belief, the shattering of ideals, and, with the rush of pity and rage and the maddening sense of impotence, the desire, unsanctioned yet astir in the perturbed depths of consciousness, for the old tranquil belief that all was well—this experience, the price of awakening to reality, has taught me to understand in some degree the strength of the inertia due to the rooted traditional belief in England as the home of Justice and the land of Freedom.

A "Grandmotherly" Rule

Four years ago, when wandering slowly through Germany in a caravan, coming into daily touch with the character and customs of the people, perceiving constant evidences of the well-being and contentment enjoyed under a rule which we are in the habit of hearing alluded to as "grandmotherly," I began to gain a conviction, which observation and experience have since then justified and strengthened, that, whatever may be said as to the stage of political liberty arrived at in Germany, there is in that country, as compared with ours, a striking and characteristic difference in the actual essential freedom, protection, and happiness of the individual. Social life, in which change and enjoyment of a simple sort is within reach of the poorest, is substituted for the hopeless monotony of our lower middle and working-class life; peasant proprietorship supplies an independent and prosperous agricultural class unknown in England; the distribution of wealth (affected as it must be by the laws of inheritance) is less unequal; and finally, the laws are those of a young country, drawn up in modern times to suit modern conditions, by statesmen who are politically responsible for the care and well-being not only of the men, but of the women and children. Democracy should be the best of all governments, but when, as with us, it is a sham democracy, representing or misrepresenting only half the people and irresponsible as regards the other half, upon whose physical and moral welfare depends the future of the race—then, it seems, an autocratic Government which is imbued with a sense of its responsibility to the nation may show far better results.

It has struck me as of interest to enquire, in a community so well ordered, whose women are making as yet no widespread demand for the vote and seem unstirred by any intense feeling of grievance or injustice, what is the general attitude of the men towards the women? We recall, of course, our popular ideas of the German "Hausfrau," which may perhaps fairly rank with the traditional deference, on which we set such store, of English men to English women—both superficial, neither an indication of the deep-seated attitude of the mind. The impression of the late Max O'Rell, in his book on "England and the English," as to the slight respect in which Englishwomen were held by Englishmen, has no doubt aroused in others the same resentment which I remember in myself at a statement which I regarded at the time as flagrantly false, not perceiving that I was blinded to essentials by the obviousness of superficialities.

The Old Prejudices Prevail

If, then, we are not to judge by forms of politeness and deference in trifles, upon which Englishmen pride themselves in their relations with their

women, on what are we to base our measure of the fundamental regard in which women are held in England and Germany respectively? The old prejudices, it is evident, exist in both countries—the assumption as to the inferiority of woman is at the root of law and custom in both. In which has it struck its roots deepest? Does it involve in both the further revolting proposition that the bodies and minds of women and girl children are to be counted of less value than property, and attacks upon them treated as the most venial of misdemeanours, punished less severely than the theft of a rabbit or the damaging of a shrub? I wish I could convey to Englishmen something of the horror with which information as to the lack of protection afforded to women and girl children by our law is invariably received here, not by the women alone, but by the men to whom I speak. Beginning in every case with no more knowledge of the subject than can be gleaned from the passages in the papers copied from our party Press, and therefore naturally starting with a hostile prejudice against us, I have found a few illuminating facts as to the punishments awarded for crimes against women and children to arouse so deep a sense of indignant outrage that a

few minutes' conversation is sufficient to produce a sympathetic understanding of the militant position, even in its later aspects, which I never shirk, being a militant and making no reservations.

Militancy Explained

"Can this be true—are you indeed telling me facts?" is the horrified exclamation of the German, who finds it difficult to grasp that which to him seems beyond the limits of belief. "Then I no longer wonder at the militancy of English women."

It is a frame of mind different from that which is usual in England, and that it is not superficial, but radically so, is evidenced by the laws in force for the protection of women and children in the respective countries—in Germany the embodiment of solid care and respect for womanhood, in our country a standing reproach to the men of England, who continue to tolerate a system which in the degrading conditions it imposes upon their women and girl children brings the practice of British justice and British chivalry into contempt.

These contrasts will be specifically dealt with in a further article.

(To be Continued.)

TURNING OFF THE LIMELIGHT

By T. O'Meara

Everybody who has engaged in propagandist work must know how amazingly difficult it is to get a straight fight out of one's opponents. They are like a boastful street hooligan unexpectedly challenged by a professional pugilist—make some show of sparring at first, but after the first effective smack drop all such pretences, and go snivelling off up a side alley, turning every half minute to hurl epithets and mud at the victor. We had an amusing example of this when Socialism first took the field as a smart young practicable policy, with an alarming weight of intellectual muscle behind it; for the opposing party promptly adopted precisely these tactics, and dropped every sort of logical reasoning in favour of a feeble music-hall patter about Free Love and the community of tooth-brushes. And meanwhile the Socialists smiled and smiled, and were very virtuous; and went on placidly marrying and giving in marriage, and founding Sunday Schools and Total Abstinence-from-Everything Societies, and evolving a new and peculiarly prickly variety of the Nonconformist conscience; and at length the reactionaries began to perceive that they were making themselves look rather foolish. So they turned about hurriedly to find a fresh victim, and beheld the Suffragist; and this was a prime bit of luck for them, for it is so much safer—if you want to throw mud—to throw it at a woman; since, if she protests or retaliates, you can always cry out upon her immodesty for daring to mention such filthy stuff!

Well, I don't think it is going to hurt us very much; the only danger is, lest we should be tempted to follow the hooligan up his side alley for the purposes of chastisement; lest we should forget that Woman's Enfranchisement is, after all, primarily a social question, and only incidentally a sex question. The reactionaries, of course, are very anxious that we should forget this; they know that if they can only draw us off into a slanging match concerning our respective standard of morals, then it is likely to end in a draw; it is on the dry, prosaic ground of practical economic and political expediency that we have them beaten.

Raising the Standard

Assuredly we are out against many evils closely bound up with the question of sex; and the Chartists were out against many evils closely bound up with the question of a chronically empty larder; but the enfranchisement of working men did not lead at once to a minimum larder standard—it is only raising this standard, slowly and indirectly, by raising wages and improving conditions of work. And the Vote is not going to transform every lazy, vain, empty-headed little flirt into a serious and purposeful citizen; nor is it going to effect a similar transformation in the corresponding type of male; it is not going to prevent quarrelsome married couples from seeking satisfaction with the fire-irons, nor incompatible married couples from seeking consolation and sympathy elsewhere. It will only relieve the present congestion on the Primrose Path (so to speak) by ensuring that no one, man or woman, need walk there save by deliberate choice and natural inclination. And this it will do in

directly, and by means of other reforms—commonplace, humdrum reforms of the workshop and the market place; less attractive, no doubt, to the Paul Pry type of mind, yet quite as pressing and quite as urgent as all the problems of the problem novel and the problem play.

The general public has such a ravenous perverted appetite for spice at any price, that there is always a very real danger lest the case of the unimaginative and possibly rather rowdy young person, forced by economic pressure along the line of least resistance to the gutter, should eclipse the case of the decent working woman forced by the same pressure to go out charing three weeks before her confinement. A thousand cinema films centre about the lurid and delicious horrors of the White Slave Traffic; I do not believe there is one which deals with the baby-slave traffic in the factories of the Southern States of America. A young female waster who attempts to shoot a young male waster, and subsequently receives a savage sentence of penal servitude, apparently to punish her for her bad marksmanship, is without a doubt a pitiful figure enough; but still more worthy of our commiseration is the delicate widow left penniless with three small children to support, and only her slender hands to do battle against the world for them. For surely the most "shocking" thing in life is not licentiousness, but inhumanity. And the very worst degradation of the body is a less shameful thing than that degradation of the soul—that dragging down and smoothing over of personal beliefs and hopes and ambitions, to please and propitiate the man who holds the purse strings, which we may see around us in very respectable households every day. That is dishonour, if you like; that is the unforgivable sin.

Putting Sex in Its Proper Place

One thing is certain; we can never hope to raise the general moral level of the nation until we have learnt to put sex in its proper place, as we are already learning to do with our other appetites. Priests and law-makers thundered in vain against the sin of gluttony, until the progress of civilisation secured—in Western countries—a moderate sufficiency of palatable food to all but the most unfortunate. In distant lands, still haunted by the shadow of famine, we may still see the perpetual see-saw between the two extremes of over-indulgence and over-asceticism—the fat Baboo and the lean fakir. But we do not seek to remedy this state of things by upbraiding the Baboo for his greed, or trying to instil a roisterous convivial spirit into the fakir; we busy ourselves, instead, with the crops; knowing well that under safer and happier conditions the food-obsession will disappear, as it is fast disappearing from England; and as the sex-obsession will disappear when we no longer suffer so terribly from a famine of all joy and brightness, all wholesome comfort and healthy innocent pleasure. . . . "Give us the sun, mother! Give us the sun!"

Good wages, decent housing conditions, sound education, and plenty of jolly, interesting work and play (especially play) will do more for our national morals than all the sermons to young men ever preached. And man has not been very successful over securing these things for us; so it is time and more than time that woman took a hand.

COMPARISON OF PUNISHMENTS

LIGHT SENTENCES

Assaults on Women

The *Manchester Guardian* (March 27), reports case of a Manchester business man summoned at Stockport County Police Court for committing an assault on a woman clerk on the high road. She was rescued by a man, who gave evidence. The defendant had at first admitted the offence and begged her not to take action. He afterwards said he was drunk and she encouraged him. The magistrates, in pronouncing sentence, said they had considered the case carefully.

Sentence: Fine of £5 and costs.

The *Manchester Guardian* (April 13), and other papers, report case of a young man charged at Crewe with assaulting a young woman in an express train. She pulled the communication cord and he jumped on to the line and sustained several cuts in falling.

Sentence: Fined £2 and costs.

Cruelty to a Cow

The *Aberdeen Evening Gazette* (March 11) reports case of a farm servant charged before Sheriff Laing at Aberdeen with cruelly ill-treating a cow by kicking it with his booted foot. Evidence was given that the cow had been examined by a veterinary surgeon and was found to be suffering great pain. The defence was that the action was unpremeditated.

Sentence: Fine of £3 or twenty days.

There is particular significance in our first comparison of punishments this week, for, although we do not in any way wish to condone the crime of stealing, we cannot help seeing how immeasurably lighter is the offence of the woman who steals men's clothes in order to go out to work as a man, and so earn the wages of a man (which was probably one at least of her motives), than the offence of the man who makes an unprovoked assault of a vile kind upon a defenceless woman in a country road. Yet the woman offender goes to prison for six months, while the man gets off with a fine, which counts as nothing to a man in his position!

A Cow Worth More Than a Woman

Similarly, the young ruffian who assaulted a girl in the train, so as to compel her to pull the communication cord, is merely called upon to pay a paltry fine, while the theft of a bicycle is punished with the monstrous sentence of five years' penal servitude. A cow being worth more as property than a woman, the farm servant who ill-treats one gets a sentence of twenty days (with the option of a fine). But even so, compare twenty days with three years' penal servitude given to another man for attempting to fire a straw stack, and it will be seen how much more highly property is valued than flesh and blood in this country.

A Straw Rick Worth More Than Either

Does the magistrate (Mr. W. Embleton Fox), who talked of the unfairness to stack owners of having stack-burners tried by judges who do not live in the country, ever realise the unfairness to women of having criminal assailants tried only by men who have no conception of how deeply women feel on the subject of these shameful assaults on the person, dismissed so lightly in our Courts with a fine of a pound or two?

WHEN ASSAULT IS PUNISHED

Sometimes, it is true, an assault upon the person is punished with severity. A man in Dublin, for assaulting two strike-breakers, was sentenced to two years' imprisonment with hard labour. (See *Manchester Guardian*, April 9.) It is easy to see, however, why this severe sentence was passed. The man, in attacking strike-breakers, was indirectly attacking the sacred rights of property, and so got almost as severe a sentence as if he had tried to burn a rick!

IF STRIKE BREAKERS WERE WIVES!

If, however, those two strike-breakers had been one wife, how different a sentence would have been passed. Few things in our Courts are more poignantly illustrative of the low status of the wife than the continual indulgence shown by the Bench towards the wife-beater or the husband who causes his wife anguish by his conduct in one form or another. Two recent instances stand out as evidence of this indulgence.

The *Pioneer* (March 24) gives one. It is that of a wife who summoned her husband at Woolwich Police Court for persistent cruelty. She had had to leave him because he thrashed her. He was continually knocking her about. He struck her two or three times a week. She denied that she drank. Defendant admitted "chastising" his wife because she was drunk. He only struck her when she attacked him. Mr. Hutton, the magistrate, dismissed the case, observing "with a smile" that he thought complainant was able to take care of herself! We should like to think that all wives in

HEAVY SENTENCES

Stealing an Overcoat and Trousers

The *Times* (April 7) reports case of a woman carder charged at Lancaster Quarter Sessions with the theft of an overcoat and trousers which she was found wearing at a marine store dealer's where she was doing a man's work. There were former convictions.

Sentence: Six months' hard labour.

Stealing a Bicycle

The *Times* (April 9) reports case of a student charged at the Middlesex Sessions with stealing a bicycle. There were previous convictions.

Sentence: Five years' penal servitude.

Attempt to Fire a Stack

The *Times* (April 13) reports case of a joiner charged at Lindsey (Lincolnshire) Quarter Sessions, before Mr. W. Embleton Fox, with attempting to set fire to a straw-stack. There were previous convictions, and the Chairman said he was glad it was a case that could be tried at Quarter Sessions, because the judges at assizes did not realise the harm of stack-firing as did the magistrates living in the country.

Sentence: Three years' penal servitude.

similar circumstances were able to take care of themselves. They need the strength.

An Excellent Comment

The other instance is that of a woman who drowned her child and committed suicide at Hammersmith a week ago, in despair at another outbreak of drunkenness on the part of her husband. The following letter from Miss Edith A. Stoney, which appeared in the *Times* of April 7, is the best commentary that could be made on this case:

"In your witty article on Petruchio up-to-date you refer to the 'proved popularity with women of the hero whom the men take to be an unutterable brawler and brute.'

"It is quaint to turn from the mirror on the stage to the real life shown on another page of the same issue of your great journal—where we read of a woman of thirty-four who took her own life and that of her baby rather than face for herself or child the constantly recurring drunkenness of her husband.

"The jury of men at the inquest apparently agreed with the humour of the writer of your article as to the type of man a woman ought to admire, for they brought this woman in 'as of unsound mind.'

THE HOME OFFICE AND JULIA DECIES

In the House of Commons on Thursday in last week, Mr. W. Thorne asked the Home Secretary if he will again consider the case of Julia Decies in consequence of the jury's plea for mercy; if he is aware that certain evidence that might have weighed in her favour was suppressed; if he is aware that Julia Decies was wounded in consequence of the man Piffard striking her first before she fired the shot; if he is aware that several respectable people are willing to provide a home for her if she is released from prison; and, in consequence of the effect of the stab on the woman's health and the way she was treated by the man Piffard, will he either grant her release or reduce the sentence?

Mr. McKenna: I am advised that the statements in the question are not accurate, but it is in any case impossible for me to discuss the details of a criminal case by way of question and answer across the floor of the House; nor can I form any opinion as to the weight to be given to the pleas which are urged until I see them explicitly set forth with a statement of any facts on which they are based. If any representations on behalf of the prisoner are submitted to me in the usual way, I will give them the most careful consideration.

FRENCHWOMAN'S IMPORTANT DISCOVERY

Mme. Victor Henri, the French bacteriologist, has made one of the most important discoveries in that branch of research for many years, which was communicated in a note to the Academy of Science by Dr. Roux, Director of the Pasteur Institute. Her discovery marks a step in the evolution of the science of bacteriology, and may possibly lead to the finding of some protoplasmic form of the origin of life. The experiment was made with anthrax bacillus, but it is too early as yet to say with certainty whether the knowledge gained will be of use in curing the disease. In any case, an entirely new horizon has been opened up to the investigation and evolution of bacteria and the diseases due to them; and it is a matter of rejoicing for all feminists that it is a woman who has made this great discovery that is likely to result in so much benefit to humanity.

'VOTES FOR WOMEN' EVERYWHERE

Throwing a Girdle Round About the Earth

ON THE ATLANTIC

(From Our Own Correspondent)

A concert in aid of the seamen's charities of New York and Southampton was given on board the Philadelphia on March 28, at 8.30 p.m. The chairman, having found some difficulty in making up his programme, bethought himself that votes for women was a question of importance and of public interest, and appealed to the Suffragists on board to come to his assistance. The passage had been a very rough one, and we had all been tossed about considerably since leaving Southampton on March 21, so some of the indefatigable supporters of the movement felt themselves unable to stand the ordeal of public speaking on a calmer, but still far from tranquil sea. I accepted the invitation to address the passengers, and found myself placed on the programme between an "intermission" (presumably in order that the audience might get themselves into a serious mood) and various humorous items to restore them to a cheery state of mind after the terrible intellectual effort of listening for a quarter of an hour to the "beneficial effects of equal suffrage."

The chairman was himself an advocate of woman's suffrage, and endeavoured in every way to support my advocacy. The audience were for the most part indifferent to the question, though a few were actively hostile and a still smaller number whole-hearted supporters of the Cause. They were not very responsive to jests, and this surprised me a little, as the most time-honoured jokes, served up with very little variation, had evoked roars of laughter. One or two of the previous items on the programme gave me grand opportunities; for instance, a story read by Mrs. Wilde, of the "Creation of Woman," translated from the Sanskrit, which was received with great applause, and was an excellent illustration of the position of the female sex through all the ages as only an adjunct to the male. St. Peter's exclusion of an old maid from heaven because she had no sons and daughters was one of the most mirth-provoking of recitations, and gave me an unexpected opportunity of improving the occasion.

Selling "Votes for Women"

After the meeting Miss Dorothy Pethick and Miss Kathleen Usher helped me with the sale of *VOTES FOR WOMEN*. We managed to sell nine copies, and found what was even more encouraging—that some of our purchasers were whole-hearted supporters of the movement. One man, indeed, went so far as to say that he thought every woman who was not a Suffragette ought to be ashamed of herself. He had a mother of seventy-one whom he had great difficulty in persuading to keep out of prison.

We land to-day in New York, and I hope to have further news of our tour to communicate to *VOTES FOR WOMEN*.

Margaret Hodge.

N THE WILDS

Miss Russell sends us the following interesting incident, showing the ubiquitous

nature of our paper, *VOTES FOR WOMEN*. She writes:—

A very great friend of mine had taken a short holiday at Christmas for shooting, and was camping out in the depths of the jungle about 100 miles from Rangoon. His beaters had commanded the hut of a native one night, and when he awoke in the early morning, the sun shining in through the open door, he was startled to see the familiar legend, "Votes for Women," staring at him from the wall of the hut; and, getting up to examine the extraordinary sight, he found the cartoon of your Christmas number fastened carefully on the wall, and there it will remain for years carefully preserved, and will, no doubt, puzzle the next European who may happen to pass that way—an occurrence which may not happen for years. It was absolutely in the wilds.

FROM AN INDIAN SUFFRAGIST

Appeal for Suffrage Missionaries

To the Editors of *VOTES FOR WOMEN*. Dear Editors,—I would like to suggest that a copy of *VOTES FOR WOMEN* should be placed in the reading-room of every outgoing steamer from London. People on board ship have plenty of time to read and think, and we want, especially in India, that the whole movement should be better understood. We find everywhere lamentable ignorance. I find the Indian newspapers quite eager to get copy on all matters relating to Woman's Suffrage, and this is all the more remarkable considering the backward condition of the women of India. But even the Purdah ladies know about forcible feeding of English women and of the fight they are making, so it is important we should get the truth known. There is a tremendous scope in India for propaganda work. Going to a native bookseller recently in Lahore, I mentioned suffrage literature. He told me he had already ordered and sold thirty copies of Mrs. Fawcett's little book on the Suffrage, and was willing to take anything we could let him have. He said numbers of his clients wanted anything they could lay hold of on the question.

An Indian sub-judge the other day wrote me for any literature that I could supply him with, as he and his wife were so interested in the movement, they wanted to know more, so as to write articles for the Marathi papers. There are endless possibilities for Suffrage work in India if we can get those who will undertake it. A few of us in Mussoorie are doing our best. We have approached the bishops and clergy, held meetings in several places, distributed literature and generally tried to arouse interest by letters to various papers, but the field has hardly been touched, and none of us are able to give our whole time to the work. It would be worth while, if funds would allow, to send a travelling deputation. My own idea is that if the Government knew we were bringing Suffrage propaganda to India they would regard it seriously, and it might help to force their hand. So many people travel nowadays, surely some Suffragists come to the East. Would they let us know their whereabouts, and let us see if we cannot arrange some concerted work?—Yours, &c., (Miss) Y. G. WEATHERLEY. The Deodars, Mussoorie, India.

ANTI-SUFFRAGE IN THE NURSERY



Governess: "If I bought three 'Votes for Women' from one lady and six from another and I gave two away—how many should I still have?"
Little Boy: "Plenty."

THE REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT

The following incidents have been attributed to Suffragists in the Press during the week:—

Thursday, April 9.—Asiatic Saloon of British Museum attacked, ten panes of glass of a cabinet being broken. A piece of porcelain also damaged. One arrest made.

Orlans, a country house two miles from Carrickfergus, burnt down. Damage estimated at £10,000.

Pane of glass broken at the Old Town Hall, Belfast. One arrest made.

Friday, April 10.—Attempt to burn Seaview House, Belfast.

Tuesday, April 14.—Attempt to fire Bangor (County Down) Railway Station. Suffragist literature found.

IN THE COURTS

Wednesday, April 8.—At Marlborough Street Police Court, before Mr. Denman, charged on remand with obstructing the police in Hyde Park on April 4, Mrs. Drummond. Fine 40s., or in default one month's imprisonment. Fine paid.

At Belfast Police Court, charged on remand with having explosives in their possession, Miss Dorothy Evans and Miss Maud Muir. Both remanded in custody.

Saturday, April 11.—At Bow Street Police Court, charged with damaging articles to the value of about £28 at the British Museum, Mary Stewart, otherwise Catherine Wilson. Committed for trial.

At Belfast Police Court, charged with malicious damage by breaking a window at the Old Town Hall, Miss Mabel Small. Two months' imprisonment.

Tuesday, April 14.—At Belfast Police Court, Miss Dorothy Evans and Miss Muir failed to appear. It was stated that they were too ill, having been released on Sunday night after hunger-striking since the previous Wednesday.

THE GLASGOW SCANDAL

It is much to be regretted that the Glasgow magistrates have finally decided, after further consideration of the charges of brutality brought against the City police in connection with Mrs. Pankhurst's arrest in St. Andrew's Hall, that there was no cause of complaint against them. They agreed merely to forward all the documents and reports to the Secretary for Scotland, so that he might appoint a Commission for the purpose of an enquiry should he deem one necessary. This is the quickest way we know of burying a public scandal that needs investigation!

THE FINGER-PRINT OUTRAGE

The Women's Freedom League are quite rightly making a vigorous protest against the practice of taking the finger-prints of Suffragist prisoners, which, in the case of offenders who are neither thieves nor murderers, is nothing short of an outrage. Twelve members of the League were recently sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment on a purely technical charge of obstruction, and in each case five wardresses and a doctor were sent to take the finger-prints by force. As a protest, five of the women broke everything breakable in their cells, and were consequently placed in solitary confinement, upon which they started the hunger-strike. One of them, Miss Smith, was released at the end of seven days in a serious state of health; the others completed their sentences, and were all released by the end of last week.

This is a clear case of driving women by militancy by coercion, for the Women's Freedom League have hitherto, we believe, abstained from prison mutiny. We are not surprised that they revolted on this occasion, the more so that an appeal to Mr. McKenna for justice produced only the official insult that he saw "no necessity to interfere"!

FORCIBLE FEEDING

The National Federation of Women Teachers, at its conference last Saturday, adopted a resolution protesting against the revival of forcible feeding and drugging, and calling upon the Government to take steps to remove the cause of the women's agitation.

McKENNA MUST GO

"Surely it is time," says the *Daily Herald*, commenting on the callous brutality which allowed the Home Office to feed Mary Richardson by force until only an operation could save her life, "that men and women of every class in our country rose up and demanded that Mr. McKenna should be driven from power; and it is also time that the British Medical Association took action against those members of the medical profession

guilty of such barbarous practices, and cleared out the men who allow themselves to be the tools of His Majesty's Government for such brutal purposes."

SUFFRAGETTES AND THE BISHOP OF NORWICH

Although informed that they could not be seen before April 16, a party of Suffragettes waited outside the palace of the Bishop of Norwich, last week, until he consented to receive two of them. He listened to their statement on forcible feeding, and promised to give it his consideration.

On Sunday afternoon, during the special service for teachers held at St. John's Church, Lowestoft, a large body of women chanted a Suffragist supplication. Later, when the Bishop of Norwich mounted the pulpit, several women rose and addressed him on the subject of the women being tortured in prison. They were removed by the vergers while a hymn was played by the organist.

The accounts in the Press do not give the name of the hymn; but it would be interesting to know what hymn was considered an appropriate one wherewith to drown the voices of women making a perfectly Christian appeal to a Bishop to stop the torturing of those who are captive and oppressed.

WHAT EVERY FOREIGNER KNOWS

"What a spectacle for the foreigner!" sighs the *Daily Graphic* in its leading article on "the poor magistrate," who now has to convict militant Suffragists who talk loudly at him all the time he is trying to sentence them. We agree that it is indeed a spectacle for the foreigner who has always been led to believe that Great Britain leads the way in matters of freedom, and now has to learn that it is a British Government who has driven peace-loving women like Mary Richardson and Mary Stewart to such lengths as the destruction of art treasures rather than give them their constitutional rights.

HOME TRUTHS FOR SIR EDWARD CARSON

A member of the Forward Cymric League, Mrs. Marianne Dale, sends us an interesting account of an accidental encounter she had with Sir Edward Carson on the occasion of the Ulster Demonstration in Hyde Park on April 4. After heckling the speakers at three of the platforms on the subject of Woman Suffrage, she was coming away with the streams of people when, she continues: "Three men cut across my path at right angles, two pushed behind while one got in front of me. One of the two behind me leant over my shoulder and said to the man in front, 'We could get up just as splendid a demonstration as this in any town in England.' I said at once right into the ear of the man crossing my path, 'You know you couldn't, and if you did it is as nothing compared to the Women's Demonstrations.' He turned and looked at me and lo! it was Carson himself."

THE ILP. CONFERENCE

Suffragist Interruptions

Labour Members of Parliament were subjected to constant heckling by Suffragists, principally for their association with a Government that coerces women political prisoners, at the twenty-first annual Conference of the Independent Labour Party, which opened at Bradford last Saturday.

Mr. Keir Hardie, who made the opening speech on Saturday afternoon, was considerably interrupted both by men and women Suffragists, so that, as one account says, he was heard "in little disconnected paragraphs." But the greatest disturbance occurred at the evening mass meeting when three Members of Parliament rose in turn and attempted to speak in a sort of pandemonium. One woman, who chained herself to the balcony, hung a crimson banner over the rail to catch the eye of the French delegates, bearing the words "Messieurs, vos amis anglais ont trahi la cause des femmes."

No Attention Paid to the Platform

Mr. Philip Snowden, who spoke first, gave up the attempt by the time half the audience were on their feet, their attention entirely occupied with the people who reminded the speaker incessantly of his support of a Government who refused to do justice to women. Mr. Ramsay Macdonald persisted in his speech to the end, but, as the *Times* puts it, "the majority of the audience, who were continually springing to their feet whenever any such interruption occurred, ceased to pay any attention to what was going on on the platform." Two bags of flour were thrown at him while he was on his feet, and their contents burst all over the platform and Press table.

Mr. Arthur Henderson, M.P., had scarcely begun to speak when a man

shouted out: "You ought to be ashamed of yourself for associating with the Liberal Government in their treatment of women." After that, interruptions continued until the end of his speech also.

MODERN HAMPDENS

Medical Women Refuse to Pay Unjust Taxes

Last week a gold watch and chain were sold under distress for King's Taxes at Messrs. Hawkins' Auction Rooms, Lissom Grove, the property of Dr. Frances Ede and Dr. Amy Sheppard, practising at Upper Berkeley Street.

A procession with banners, organised by the Women's Tax Resistance League, formed up at Marble Arch and marched to the Auction Rooms, via Edgware Road. As soon as Lot 1 was announced, Dr. Ede protested against the sale and her brief speech was listened to with grave attention. The watch and chain were knocked down at £8 18s. 6d. After three cheers had been given to the Tax Resisters, the procession continued to Marylebone Baths, where an open-air meeting was held from a waggonette gaily decorated in the colours of the W.T.R.L. Dr. Ede presided and the speakers were Mrs. Cobden Sanderson and Mrs. Kington Parkes. At the close of the meeting, the following resolution was carried:—"That this meeting protests against the seizure and sale of goods belonging to Drs. Ede and Sheppard, and is of opinion that women tax payers are justified in refusing to pay all Imperial Taxes till they have the same control over National Expenditure as male tax payers possess."

A FIGHTING BIRTHDAY NUMBER

The *Daily Herald*, which from the first has advocated votes for women and given its readers true facts about the movement, celebrated its second birthday last Wednesday with a double number. One of the

most interesting features in it was a couple of pages devoted to messages of congratulation from well-known men and women, including many Suffragists. Beatrice Harraden sends "best wishes, hearty congratulations, and sincere expressions of appreciation"; Israel Zangwill, with the editorial jest that he cannot wish a paper many happy returns, congratulates both the *Daily Herald* and the public, "largely for your advocacy of Women's Suffrage." Henry W. Nevins says it is "the only paper that speaks for the nation's body and soul." It alone has the courage to utter our fierce indignation at the injustice and brutality of the politicians we pay." The Rev. Lewis H. Donaldson calls it the "enfant terrible of the Press," and Leonard Hall talks of it "laughing the conventions to their graves, backing the brave women." Henry D. Harben finishes his message with the words, "Your work will not be done, little paper, till every drudge and harlot, every rogue and failure, shall stand beside you there, on the summit of Things!"

We, too, congratulate our fighting little contemporary on being two years old—and wish it few returns!

A RATEPAYER'S VIEW

Is Mr. McKenna really afraid of the Suffragists? I notice that from two to six policemen are on guard around his house in Westminster night and day. A friend of mine who lives within a hundred yards of the Home Secretary has a very valuable collection of pictures. He complains that if he wanted six policemen to guard his treasures he would have to pay for their services, and strongly objects to paying his share towards Mr. McKenna's bodyguard. — "Mr. Gossip" in the "Daily Sketch."

PUNCH'S LAST WORD

"The Song of the Breakers," which is being advertised, is not, we are told, a war song for the Suffragettes.—Punch.



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than to find her new frock creased and crumpled the first time she wears it. Yet this is what happens with all ordinary linen fabrics—they begin to look untidy from the moment you first sit down.

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CORRESPONDENCE

'THE HAND THAT ROCKS THE CRADLE RULES THE WORLD.'

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Dear Editors.—For all these centuries we have regarded that sweet sentiment as expressing all that is best in motherhood and womanhood generally. But in the light of latter-day events it would seem to be a cruel and rapid misrepresentation of things as they are in actual practice.

Viewed from the standpoint of our wise and learned lawmakers and our just and able judges, the hand that rocks the cradle is the scapegoat upon which shall be visited lawful chastisement for any shortcomings which may be apparent in the rearing of the occupants of the cradle. Should all go well in the cradle world, then the hand that rocks it—but what am I dreaming of? My thoughts have gone astray! It's only the mother—only a woman; and so long as there is nothing to blame her for, why discuss the question at all? Certainly, she brought the child into being, and risked her own death in its birth, and in the nature of things suffered untold agonies, and never complained; and equally as a matter of course she dreamed dreams, and drew plans, and built schemes, which should all be unfolded, developed and pursued, with all the tenacity of a mother's purpose, in the rearing of the child when it should at last come into her arms and look to her for guidance.

Only a Good Woman

But that's all nonsense! A mother who has such Spartan qualities and such wise, all-embracing aspirations has no place in our legislative economy at all. As for ruling the world—ah, no, we don't even trouble to impose rules upon her. She isn't a unit; apart from the necessity for her existence as a mother, she really doesn't form part of the community at all. Don't you understand? She's only a woman—and, worse than that, a Good Woman. Now, if she were a bad woman, a bad mother, a selfish, negligent, lazy, cruel being, undeserving even of the name of woman—she would at once become part and parcel of the living, moving, rational element of the nation. If only she were a mother without being a wife—then what amount of responsibility and legal recognition would be at once poured upon her can scarcely be estimated! It would be pointed out to her in vivid terms how she had failed to rule her little portion of the world—how she had fallen short of her duty as a trustworthy person, how she had caused herself to be regarded as a person to be considered by those that sit in high places—an achievement which a good woman might be proud of; in fact, her responsibility would assume such proportions, under treatment of our wise and able judges, as would make a thoughtful woman hang her head in shame at the little she had been able to accomplish.

Helping to Rule the World

"The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world." And yet, when that hand simply suggests that it should be given its proportionate share in the responsibility of Government, the said Government, as it now exists, falls down upon her like an outraged god, muttering fearful imprecations, uttering wild threats, bullying, intimidating—aye, even torturing; and then hiding behind closed doors, police protection, and broken promises—afraid of the woman from whom to the latest moment it is withholding that which it must surely give! But when it is given, then truly will the hand that rocks the cradle help to rule the world; and that is all it asks!

B. S.

A CANVASS OF WOMEN

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Dear Editors—I write to put forward a scheme which I trust may commend itself to all who are working for the future rights of women, and which I feel sure, could be accomplished, would bring to a triumphant issue the movement on behalf of Women's Suffrage.

I would suggest that an organisation be set on foot to secure a canvas of the whole female population of the British Isles—over a certain age, which is to be settled upon. The majority having been definitely ascertained—and I venture to think that it would be a vast one—then the time would be ripe for a petition to Parliament to be favourably received.

Opponents of Home Rule long for a

chance to voice the general feeling of the country upon that question, but are prevented from doing so; supporters of Woman Suffrage would labour under no such disadvantage. To that end let all branches of this great movement combine together, remembering that unionism is strength, and so surely must the outcome form an authoritative and irresistible appeal which cannot be ignored.—Yours, &c., A SUFFRAGIST.

[While gladly publishing our correspondent's interesting proposal, we would like to point out to him that if carried out by voluntary service such a canvass would cost not less than £50,000, and if by paid service not less than £250,000; also that it would absorb the whole energies of all the women's organisations probably for some years. And, we are bound to add, when accomplished, however favourable the result might be, we have no assurance that Parliament would act upon it.—EDITORS, VOTES FOR WOMEN.]

TWO SUFFRAGE MEETINGS IN NEW YORK
(From Our Own Correspondent)

Miss Dorothy Pethick and I landed in New York on Sunday, March 29, and on Monday, March 30, at the invitation of Mrs. Chapman Catt, we visited the various Suffrage offices where we found the officials preparing with great energy for the mass meeting to be held in the Carnegie Hall that evening. Everyone seemed busy and self-confident, fully convinced that 1915 would see the victory of the woman's cause in the State.

When Dr. Anna Shaw limped on to the platform to take the chair, she was greeted with an ovation. The applause was well deserved, as she had sustained a most painful accident, breaking her ankle a few weeks before, but neither the pain nor the lameness had been regarded by her as a valid reason for failing in her promise to preside. Her address was delightful, full of kindness and brightened by humour, yet with a deep seriousness underlying it, for she realises very vividly the sacredness of the cause to which she has devoted so many years of her life.

The Women of the West

A large number of speakers, of both sexes, followed her; and those who had worked in the Western States, more especially in Nebraska and North and South Dakota, gave their experiences and were greeted with much enthusiasm. A series of lantern slides, with an explanatory address, gave us some idea of the vast resources of the Western States; and the moving pictures of women workers for the Suffrage tendering their petition showed the enterprise and energy of the women of the West for the cause. The whole tone of the meeting was optimistic; and if courage and confidence, faith and tireless exertion count, the women ought to win the vote all over the States in 1915.

English Militancy Discussed

On Tuesday, March 31, the Equal Franchise League held a meeting at 8.30 p.m. and we were invited to speak at it. Mr. Nathan occupied the chair. I spoke upon the effect of the vote in Australia and New Zealand and succeeded in converting some Anti-Suffragists, who really had the interests of children at heart; and Miss Dorothy Pethick addressed the audience upon the subject of militancy—its causes and its effects. The chairwoman appeared rather uneasy in her mind during this speech; and at the close of it, she demanded of the speaker what alternative she would propose for forcible feeding. Naturally, the reply was that the lecturer was not bound to show the Government the way out of the difficulty which they had made for themselves, by their own want of principle and lack of foresight.

Quite a spirited argument then arose between the speaker and the chair, to which the audience listened with the greatest interest and attention.

In the conversations which followed the meeting, we found quite a number of the audience were sympathetic with militancy, and understood its significance. VOTES FOR WOMEN was sold in large numbers at the meeting.

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An *At Home* is being given by Miss Suzanne Sheldon on Friday, April 24, at 15, New Cavendish Street, W., when Mr. H. J. Gillespie will speak on "Chivalry." Invitation cards can be obtained from the A.F.L. Offices.

The League is giving the following performances in the Concert Hall, Olympia, for the "Women's Kingdom," at the Children's Welfare Exhibition.

Thursday, 16, "A Chat with Mrs. Chick," and a musical entertainment by Miss May Gibb, at 8.30 p.m.

Friday, 17, "The Twelve Pound Look," with Fewlass Llewellyn and Mrs. Mouillet in the cast, at 8.30 p.m.

Tuesday, 21, "Press Cuttings," by Bernard Shaw, at 5 p.m.; the cast includes Victoria Addison, Nell du Maurier, Kathleen Nesbitt, William Stack, Clifton Alderson, and Jackson Wixox.

Wednesday, 22, "Brass and Clay," by Marion Holmes, and Miss Jane Comfort will give the monologue "A Mother's Meeting."

Friday, 24, Madame Lydia Yavorska in the fourth act of Ibsen's "A Doll's House," at 5 p.m.

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Mr. H. J. Gillespie, Hon. Treasurer	
Mrs. Ayrton Gould, Hon. Secretary	
Mr. Charles Gray, Secretary	

Join US (United Suffragists)

Now that the Easter holidays are over members are asked to concentrate their efforts on making the various activities of the Society successful in view of a possible General Election.

Members' Meeting.—First of all, we hope that all London members will make a point of being present at our first weekly members' meeting which will be held at 3, Adam Street, Strand, on Thursday, April 23, at 8 p.m. We shall be glad if they will come (and bring their friends) prepared, not only to hear our plans, but also to make suggestions, so that these weekly gatherings may be made a pleasant medium of communication between the committee and the members of the Society, and a source of real usefulness.

Public Meeting.—Large Portman Rooms, Thursday, May 21, 8 p.m. Tickets are now on sale, price 2s. 6d. and 1s., numbered and reserved; 6d. unreserved; and application for these should be made at once to the Ticket Secretary if good seats are required. Speakers so far settled are:—Chair: Miss Lena Ashwell, the well-known actress, theatrical manager and social reformer. Speakers: Miss Olive Schreiner, known all over the world by her writings; Miss Gertrude Peppercorn, the well-known pianist; Miss Edyth Olive, whose reputation on the stage needs no mention; Professor Caroline Spurgeon, the only woman holding a London University Chair; the Right Rev. Bishop Powell from New Zealand (where women vote); Mr. Douglas Eyre, barrister-at-law; Mr. John Scurr, President of the London Dockers' Union, and Miss Evelyn Sharp.

From the above list of speakers it will be seen that the United Suffragists are following out their intention of enrolling those Suffragists who have not hitherto worked for any society, and members are therefore asked to bring both the unconverted and new sympathisers, especially electors, to the Portman Rooms on May 21.

Election Campaigns.—Speakers, bill distributors, canvassers, chalkers, paper sellers, are all badly wanted in Walworth and West Southwark, where weekly open-air meetings are held on Monday and Thursday evenings, and a women's indoor meeting (beginning April 27) on Monday afternoon. Apply to Hon. Sec., United Suffragists, 3, Adam Street. The election campaign is also going well at Stroud.

Drawing-room Meetings.—Mrs. Hutt has kindly consented to give a drawing-room meeting to make known our public meeting to her friends. Will other hostesses follow her example?

COMING EVENTS**"Votes for Women" Fellowship Meetings**

A Public Meeting will be held in the Reading Room, Ilford, on Thursday, April 23. Chair: Mrs. Whitten. Speakers: The Hon. Mrs. Hayfield, Mr. Pethick Lawrence, and Mr. V. Gollancz.

Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Miss H. MacGregor Murray will be the speakers at a meeting at Caer-Edin, Boness, West Lothian, on May 20.

Lancashire Centre
Organiser: Miss Phyllis Lovell, Wingate House, Ainsdale, Lancashire.

There will be "Household Necessities" Sales at Rowntree's Café, Southport, on April 22, from 3 to 6 p.m., and at Miss Palethorpe's Studio, The Albany, Old Hall Street, Liverpool, on April 23, from 3.30 to 6 p.m. Gifts for the sales should be sent to Miss Williams, 23, Scarisbrick Street, Southport; Miss Lovell, 16, Delamere Road, Ainsdale; the Organiser, Wingate House, Ainsdale; or taken to Miss Palethorpe's Studio half an hour before the Sale.

The Lancashire Organiser is *At Home* to members and friends every Monday evening at 15, Houghton Street, Southport, from 8 to 9 o'clock.

Other Meetings

Dr. Elizabeth Sloan Chesser will speak on "Woman as Citizen" at the N. C. Hall, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge, on Tuesday, April 21, at 3 p.m., under the auspices of the New Constitutional Society. Mrs. Cecil Chapman will also speak.

The Church League for Women's Suffrage will hold a Public *At Home* at Caxton Hall, Westminster, on April 21, at 3 p.m. Chair: Signora Pascoli. Speaker: Mrs. Percy Bigland.

Mrs. Douglas Knocker will deliver a lecture entitled "Maternity" at the International Women's Franchise Club, 9, Grafton Street, W., on April 22, at 4.30.

The Women's Freedom League holds Public Meetings at the Caxton Hall every Wednesday afternoon at 3.30. Miss Nina Boyle will speak on the "Political Situation" on April 22, and Mr. J. Malcolm Mitchell on "Chivalry and the Wage-Earning Woman: Fact and Fiction." Chair: Mrs. Tanner. Admission Free.

THE WOMEN'S SECTION AT OLYMPIA

There are many interesting features in the Women's Section of the Children's Welfare Exhibition at Olympia, which is organized by the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. Housing and furniture (the practical exhibition of how to furnish a room on £5 should interest professional women especially), women's occupations, sweated industries, nursing in peace and war, are a few of the departments of the Women's Section that ought particularly to appeal to Suffragists. The advance made in women's conditions in trades and professions, in those countries where men and women equally share political representation, will be demonstrated, and this part of the Women's Section will perhaps be the most useful of all from a Suffragist point of view.

PROTECTED WOMEN IN THE HOME**Too Delicate for the Polls!**

Mrs. C. Culter, of Vancouver, Washington, desiring to find out just how fragile she is, carried a pedometer attached to her person while she did her housework. She found that she covered 400 miles a month, that her daily average was a little more than thirteen miles, and that while cooking a Christmas dinner she walked 17 miles. At this rate she figured that at the end of a year she would walk 4,600 miles, and that in less than six years she would encircle the globe. Doubtless, in view of these facts, she would not be daunted at the thought of sprinting a few blocks to the polls occasionally. —*Judge*.

CONVERTING THE MEN

"Are you a Feminist?" we asked the stenographer.
She said she was.

"What do you mean by Feminism?"

"Being like men," she answered.

"Now you are joking!"

"No, I'm not. I mean mental independence. And emotional independence, too—living in relation to the universe rather than in relation to some other person."

"All men are not like that," we said sadly.

"Then they ought to join the Feminist movement!"—*The Masses*.

NO VOTES FOR MEN!
"My dear," said the professor's wife, "the hens have scratched up all that eggplant seed you sowed."

"Oh, *jealousy!*" mused the professor. And he sat down and wrote a twenty-page article on "The Development of Envy in the Minds of Female Poultry."—*Woman's Journal*.

The gifted man is he who sees the essential point and leaves all the rest aside as surpluses.

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Whoever will be free must make himself free; freedom is no fairy's gift to fall into any man's lap.

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In view of our statement in last week's *VOTES FOR WOMEN*, to the effect that the policewomen of Chicago are to be taught ju-jitsu, Miss Frances Weste is offering 500 free tickets to readers of this paper entitling each holder to two free lessons in order to show how quickly and easily women can learn the art. Applications can be made at once to 31, Golden Square, Regent Street, W.

THE RACIAL CURSE

We have been asked to announce that Mrs. Swiney's pamphlet, "The Racial Curse," reviewed in last week's *VOTES FOR WOMEN*, can be obtained at the offices of *The Awakener*, 25, Victoria Street, S.W.

SUFFRAGE DIRECTORY

Actresses' Franchise League, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.
Artistes' Suffrage League, 259, King's Road, S.W.
Australian and New Zealand Women Voters' Association, Co. International Women's Franchise Club, 9, Grafton Street, W.
Catholic Women's Suffrage Society, 55, Berners Street, Oxford Street, W.
Church League for Women's Suffrage, 6, York Buildings, Adelphi, W.C.
Civil Service Suffrage Society, 19, Sotheby Road, Highbury.
Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association, 43, Dover Street, W.
East London Federation of the Suffragettes, 321, Roman Road, Bow, E.
Federated Council of Women's Suffrage Societies, 31, Alfred Place, Tottenham Court Road, W.C.
Forward Cymric Suffrage Union, 53, Wandsworth Bridge Road, S.W.
Free Church League for Women's Suffrage, 13, Bream's Buildings, Chancery Lane.
Friends' League for Women's Suffrage, Walden, Gloucester.
Gymnastic Teachers' Suffrage Society, 2, York Place, Oxford Road, Manchester.
International Suffrage Show, 11, Adam Street, Adelphi, W.C.
International Woman Suffrage Alliance, 7, Adam Street, Adelphi, W.C.
International Women's Franchise Club, 9, Grafton Street, W.
Irishwomen's Franchise League, Westmoreland Chambers, Westmoreland Street, Dublin.
Irishwomen's Reform League, 29, South Anne Street, Dublin.
Irishwomen's Suffrage and Local Government Association, 165, Raheen Road, Dublin.
Irishwomen's Suffrage Federation, 29, South Anne Street, Dublin.
Irishwomen's Suffrage Society, 27, Donegall Place, Belfast.
Jewish League for Woman Suffrage, 32, Hyde Park Gardens, W.
League of Justice, 22, South Molton Street, W.
Liberal Women's Suffrage Union, Denison House, Vauxhall Bridge, S.W.
London Graduates' Union for Woman Suffrage, Chester Gate, Ealing.
Marchers' Out Viva Corps, Dunton, Petersham, S.W.
Men's Federation for Woman's Suffrage, 34 and 35, Ludgate Chambers, Ludgate Hill, E.C.
Men's League for Woman Suffrage, 136, St. Stephen's House, Westminster.
Men's Political Union for Women's Enfranchisement, 13, Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C.
Men's Society for Women's Rights, 65, Avenue Chambers, Southampton Row, W.C.
Munster Women's Franchise League, 83, Grand Parade, Cork.
National Industrial and Professional Women's Suffrage Society, 5, John Dalton Street, Manchester.
National Political League, Bank Buildings, 14, St. James' Street, S.W.
National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, 14, Gt. Smith Street, Westminster, S.W.
New Constitutional Society for Woman Suffrage, 8, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge.
Northern Men's Federation for Women's Suffrage, 6, Wellington Road, St. John's Wood, N.W.
Scottish Churches League for Woman Suffrage, 11, Howe Street, Edinburgh.
Scottish Federation for Women's Suffrage, 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh.
Spiritual Militancy League, 46, Queen's Road, Bayswater, W.
Suffrage Atelier, Office: 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.
Studio: 6, Stanhope Villas, Shepherd's Bush, W.
Suffrage Club, 3, York Street, St. James', S.W.
"Suffrage First" Committee, 47, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, E.C.
Suffragist Churchwomen's Protest Committee, 21, Downside Crescent, Hampstead, N.W.
United Religious Woman Suffrage Societies, 13, Bream's Buildings, Chancery Lane, E.C.
United Suffragists, 3, Adam Street, Strand, W.C.
Votes for Women Fellowship, 47, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, E.C.
Lancashire Organiser: Miss Phyllis Lovell, Wingate House, Alnwick, Lancs.
Women Sanitary Inspectors' Suffrage Society, 83, Sutherland Avenue, W.
Women's Freedom League, 1, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.
Women's Silent Co-operation for Freedom, 10, Southwicks Road, Moseley.
Women's Social and Political Union, Lincoln's Inn Fields, Kingsway, W.C.
Women's Tax Resistance League, 10, Talbot House, St. Martin's Lane, W.C.
Women Teachers' Franchise Union, 27, Marlborough Road, Lee, S.E.
Women Writers' Suffrage League, Goschen Buildings, Beresford Street, W.C.

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All advertisements must be prepaid. To ensure insertion in our next issue, all advertisements must be received not later than Tuesday afternoon. Address, the Advertisement Manager, Votes for Women, 47, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, E.C.

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICES

ETHICAL CHURCH, Queen's Road, W. — April 19, 11, Sir Victor Horsley, "The Present Unethical Treatment of Poverty and Public Health"; 7, Mr. S. K. Ratcliffe, editor of the "Sociological Review", Tagore and the National Revival in India."

ST. MARY-AT-HILL.—Church Army S. Church, Eastcheap, Sundays, 9 and 6, views, orchestra, band, Prebendary Carilee.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE MEETINGS.

NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.—Tuesday, April 21st, at 3 p.m. New Constitutional Hall, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge, "Woman as Citizen," Dr. Elizabeth Sloan Chesser, Mrs. Cecil Chapman.

THE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.—Public at Home at Carlton Hall, Westminster, Tuesday, April 21, at 3 p.m. Chair, Signora Pascoli; speaker, Mrs. Percy Bigland (secretary of the Criminal Law Amendment Committee), on "Criminal Law Amendment." Collection. Tea, 6d.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB, 8, Grafton Street, W.—Subscription One guinea. Good Library. Lecture, Wednesday, April 22, at 4.30. Mrs. Douglas Knocker Subject: "Maternity."

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE holds Public Meetings at CAXTON HALL every Wednesday afternoon. Speakers APRIL 22nd—Miss Nina Boyle: "The Political Situation," and Mr. J. Malcolm Mitchell: "Chivalry and the Wage-Earning Woman: Fact and Fiction." The Chair will be taken by Mrs. Tanner at 3.30. Admission Free.

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BRIGHTON.—TITCHFIELD HOUSE, 21, Upper Rock Gardens, off Marine Parade. Good table, congenial society. Terms from 2s. week.—Mrs. Gray, W.S.P.U.

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FOLKESTONE.—"Trevorra," Bouvier Road West. Board-residence, excellent position, close to sea, Leas, and theatre; separate tables; moderate terms; private apartments if required.—Miss Key (W.S.P.U.).

LONDON, W.C.—113, Gower Street. L. refined home; breakfast, dinner, and full board Sunday; cubicle, 15s. 6d.; rooms, 10s. 6d. to 2s.; gentlemen, 19s. 6d.; bed and breakfast, 2s.

PRIVATE HOTEL, for Ladies only; quiet and refined; 15, St. George's Square, Westminster; bedroom, breakfast, bath, and attendance, from 4s. 6d.—Write or wire Miss Davies.

RESIDENTIAL Club for Ladies.—R. Cubicles from 18s. 6d. per week with board; rooms 2s.; also by the day.—Mrs. Campbell-Wilkinson, 49, Weymouth Street, Portland Place, London, W.

WEST HEATH HOSTEL, Lyndale, Hampstead.—Designed to give freedom and comfort to visitors or workers. Lovely garden. Telephone 5497 Hampstead.—Apply, Mrs. Errol Boyd.

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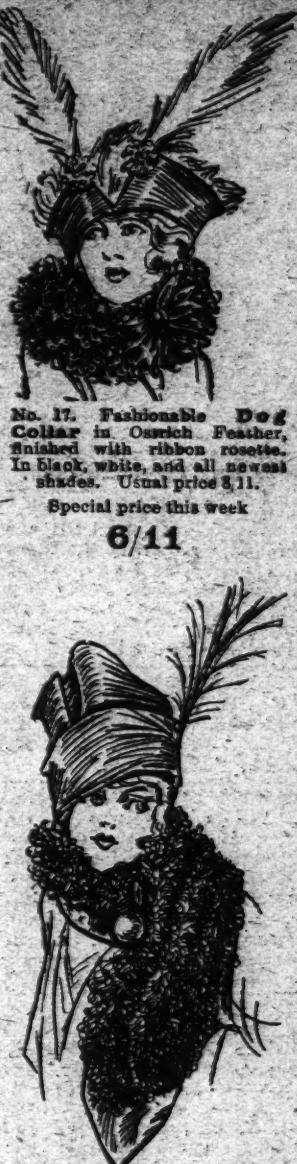
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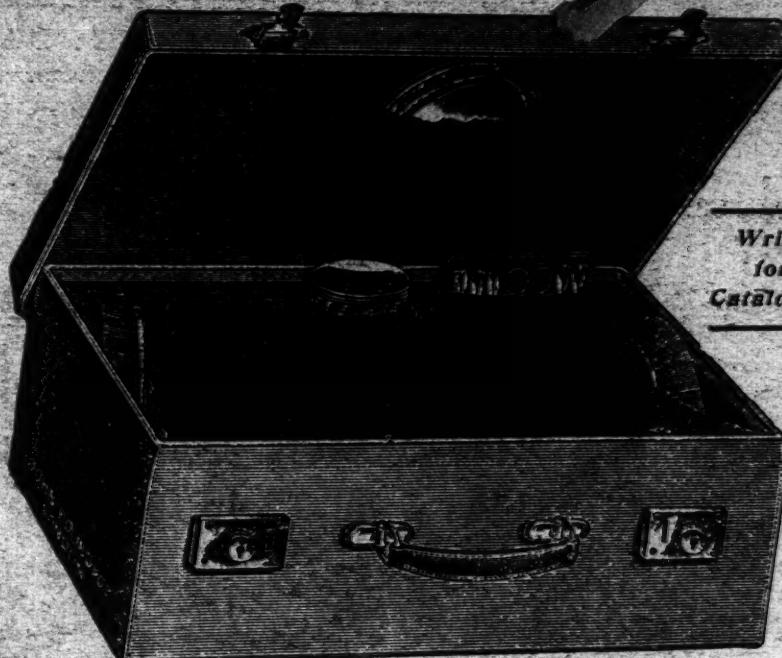
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